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Japan

Government Not To Seek Apology for A-Bombings

OW0212034491 Tokyo KYODO in English 0319 GMT 2 Dec 91

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 2 KYODO—Japan does not plan to seek an apology from the United States for the World War II atomic-bomb attacks on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Chief Cabinet Secretary Koichi Kato said Monday.

Neither will Tokyo offer an apology for the surprise attack on Pearl Harbor 50 years ago, Kato said.

"It is a fact that the Pearl Harbor (attack) and the atom bombing occurred during the war, but rather than debate each point, it is better for the two countries to put an emphasis on building a new history," Kato said at a regularly scheduled news conference.

He made the remarks in response to a comment by U.S. President George Bush on Sunday that the A-bombings were justified because they saved American lives by ending the war without an invasion of Japan.

Many Japanese believe that the bombs were dropped in part because Japanese are Asian, and that the two countries should apologize for the events of World War II.

Kato said the A-bombings were "an unfortunate and terrible" event. "There are feelings that only the Japanese can understand, and we have told this to the Americans," he said.

Asked to describe those feelings, Kato said that the A-bomb is a special weapon, and Japanese people are the only ones to have experienced an atomic attack.

Hiroshima Mayor Regrets Bush's A-Bomb Remarks

OW0212135491 Tokyo KYODO in English 1249 GMT 2 Dec 91

[Text] Hiroshima, Dec. 2 KYODO—Hiroshima Mayor Takashi Hiraoka expressed regret Monday over U.S. President George Bush's remark he has no intention of apologizing for the atomic bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki in the closing days of World War II.

Hiraoka said the comment is regrettable because it justifies the use of a "cruel and inhumane weapon."

Bush, in an ABC program broadcast Sunday, said there is no need for the United States to apologize to Japan for the atomic bombings because they saved countless American lives.

Hiraoka said citizens of Hiroshima have been calling for the abolition of nuclear weapons and establishment of world peace, overcoming the hatred and sadness caused by the bombing.

He said the two countries should not forget Pearl Harbor and the atomic bombing, and instead solemnly accept them as facts of the past and try to build friendlier relations.

In Nagasaki, Mayor Hitoshi Motoshima said Japan should apologize first for the surprise attack on Pearl Harbor 50 years ago, while the U.S. should recognize that an atomic bombing violates international law on humanitarian grounds.

Motoshima said he thinks the U.S. dropped the atomic bombs to "become superior in the postwar world."

He also said the two countries should try to build world peace and make no bones about the past.

Foreign Minister on U.S. Business Endeavors

OW2911111691 Tokyo KYODO in English 1044 GMT 29 Nov 91

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 29 KYODO—Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe said Friday that U.S. companies hoping to do business in Japan should pick up hints from other U.S. companies which have achieved success here, as well as from Japanese companies doing business overseas.

"In actuality, there are lots of U.S. companies which have come to Japan and are achieving success," Watanabe said in a press conference.

"I think it's basically important for (aspiring U.S. companies) to sound them out on how they achieved that success," the foreign minister said, adding in jest that successful U.S. companies may be keeping the secrets of success to themselves.

As examples of successful U.S. companies, he named Shakey's, McDonalds, Pepsi Cola, and Coca Cola, which he said are "crushing" their Japanese competitors.

Watanabe said, "it's most important for U.S. companies to deepen their study of Japanese companies and the Japanese marketplace," adding, "just because you can sell in America doesn't mean you can sell in Japan, and vice versa."

Explaining that Japanese companies tailor their products to specific markets, he gave the example of Japanese carmakers taking into consideration such minute details as the effect of radio waves on microprocessors installed in cars exported to those areas of the U.S. heavily exposed to such waves.

Watanabe noted that until recently, U.S. companies tried to sell large, gas-guzzling cars to Japan, a country with narrow roads and high gasoline prices, without even repositioning the steering wheel to the right side of the car.

He said U.S. companies, unlike their Japanese counterparts, do not invest sufficient resources into their overseas facilities because they lack a long-term perspective.

And while Japanese executives are willing to forego high salaries for the sake of their companies, their U.S. counterparts aim for the largest possible salaries and then switch companies even though the going is still good, he said.

Watanabe noted that the heads of Japanese companies have more flexibility to invest in overseas facilities than do their U.S. counterparts, who are preoccupied with the need to come up with short-term profits so they can provide high dividends to stockholders.

"If one is going to quit and move on anyway, he is not going to be as concerned about how things will be going five years down the line," he said.

Watanabe suggested that the widespread practice in Japan of ensuring lifetime employment engenders a sense of loyalty and concern for the welfare of the company, which has ramifications in terms of efficiency and productivity.

He noted that in Japan, section chiefs associate closely with employees of lesser seniority, eating together with them regularly.

"In that sense, you could probably say Japan is more democratic," he said. "There's a sense of oneness in the workplace."

Watanabe also said U.S. companies wishing to successfully do business in Japan should put more effort into learning the Japanese language.

He said heads of U.S. subsidiaries here generally cannot say much more in Japanese than "good morning," "good afternoon," and "how are you today."

"When it comes time to talk about work matters, they need a translator," he said, noting that Japanese trading company workers are trained in their host country's language and do not usually require interpreters.

SDF To Join UN Forces Only if PRC Agrees

OW0212064291 Tokyo KYODO in English 0627 GMT 2 Dec 91

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 2 KYODO—Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe said Monday Japan will not send Self-Defense Forces (SDF) personnel overseas to assist U.N. peacekeeping operations unless China agrees on it.

Watanabe made the remarks at a session of the special committee of the House of Representatives to discuss a government bill authorizing overseas deployment of the SDF to join U.N. peacekeeping operations.

Watanabe said, "The bill is based on the premise of a request from the United Nations and if China, one of five permanent members of the Security Council, opposes, Japan will not dispatch the SDF."

Watanabe was replying to questions posed by Rijiro Sawafuji, a member of the largest opposition Social Democratic Party (SDP).

Another SDP questioner, Tadatoshi Akiba, demanded that Japan specifies, in an accord with the U.N., that Tokyo will not fully transfer command to the U.N. in the event that SDF personnel are sent overseas to assist peacekeeping operations.

Akiba also demanded that an accord would specify that Japan could interrupt a mission on its own judgment and that the use of force should be left to the judgment of individuals in order to protect themselves.

Watanabe rejected Akiba's request, saying Japan will hold prior consultations with the United Nations before it dispatches SDF members.

The session resumed to confirm last Wednesday's committee vote on the bill.

During the special committee meeting, the bill was railroaded through with the support of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party and the second largest opposition Komeito.

The SDP and the Japanese Communist Party insisted that the voting was null and void, and demanded that the measure be returned to the committee for further debates.

The special committee was expected to confirm Wednesday's vote later in the day Monday.

The lower house is expected to pass the bill at a plenary session Tuesday and refer it to the House of Councillors.

The LDP needs Komeito's support to pass the bill through the opposition-controlled upper house.

Lower House Committee Passes UN Bill 2d Time

OW0212074891 Tokyo KYODO in English 0717 GMT 2 Dec 91

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 2 KYODO—A special committee of the House of Representatives again passed a bill Monday to allow overseas dispatch of Self-Defense Forces personnel to assist U.N. peacekeeping operations.

The ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) and the second-largest opposition party Komeito voted in favor of the bill.

The bill was railroaded by the LDP and Komeito at a committee session last Wednesday.

It was sent back to the committee for further debate after the largest opposition Social Democratic Party and the Japanese Communist Party insisted the vote was null and void.

Komeito Chairman on Support for Peacekeeping Bill

OW2911125891 Tokyo KYODO in English 1226 GMT 29 Nov 91

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 29 KYODO—Japan can ensure civilian control of its military with five principles governing the deployment and conduct of Japanese troops in U.N. peacekeeping operations, the secretary general of the country's second-largest opposition party said Friday.

Under the five principles, Self-Defense Forces (SDF) personnel could be dispatched overseas only to join U.N. peacekeeping operations, and only after warring factions had reached a ceasefire accord.

The principles would also dictate that U.N. Forces must be neutral, that Japanese SDF personnel could use firearms only to defend themselves, and that the government must submit a report to the Diet describing the mission to be undertaken.

Codifying these five principles in law would guarantee civilian control over the dispatch of SDF personnel, Komeito Secretary General Yuchi Ichikawa said.

Ichikawa was speaking at a news conference shortly after Komeito's annual party convention ended in Tokyo.

Komeito is Japan's No. 2 opposition party, and a key ally of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) in its quest to enact legislation now before the Diet that would authorize the government to send troops overseas to partipate in U.N. peacekeeping operations.

Komeito's two-day convention was dominated by arguments over the party leadership's decision to support the bill, and its move to join the LDP as they railroaded the legislation through a Diet committee Wednesday.

The ruling party is relying on Komeito's support to win approval of the bill in the opposition-controlled House of Councillors of the Diet.

Explaining the basis of the party's support for the measure, Komeito Chairman Koshiro Ishida said Japan will have to contribute not only to U.N. peacekeeping operations, but to other international activities in the future to maintain peace and security in the world.

During the convention Komeito adopted a declaration, endorsed by 600 party delegates from across the nation, calling for Japan to make a "positive" contribution to world peace and security.

Regarding domestic politics, Ishida said Komeito will cooperate with the ruling and opposition parties based on shared policy objectives.

Ishida added that his party was willing to work with the ruling party to enact the U.N. peacekeeping bill because it was an opportunity to promote party ideals.

Komeito Convention Urges Contributions To Peace

OW2911075891 Tokyo KYODO in English 0631 GMT 29 Nov 91

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 29 KYODO—The country's opposition party Komeito ended an annual convention Friday with calls for "positive" contributions to world peace and security from within Japan.

The second largest opposition party also vowed to make every effort to win next summer's election in the House of Councillors to maintain the majority opposition parties now hold there.

About 600 party representatives from across the country endorsed the declaration.

The two-day event was dominated by arguments over a party decision to support a bill authorizing participation of Self-Defense Forces personnel in UN peacekeeping operations.

A representative from Okayama Prefecture accused the leadership of hastily approving the bill in a House of Representatives special committee Wednesday. It was eventually pushed through by the ruling Liberal Democratic Party and Komeito.

However, defending the party decision, Chairman Koshiro Ishida said, "It is difficult for the leadership to gain 100 percent support."

He said the leadership had not mishandled the bill.

PRC Vice Premier Tian Jiyun Arrives for Visit

OW0212115791 Tokyo KYODO in English 1128 GMT 2 Dec 91

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 2 KYODO—Chinese Vice Premier Tian Jiyun, accompanied by 14 government officials, arrived in Japan on Monday for a 10-day visit at the invitation of the Foreign Ministry and the Japan-China Association on Economy and Trade.

Tian is the first Chinese Government leader to visit the nation since Japanese Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa assumed the post on November 5.

The Chinese vice premier, who is in charge of China's external economic affairs and agriculture, is one of three vice premiers serving under Premier Li Peng.

Tian will meet with Miyazawa and Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries Minister Masami Tanabu, on Tuesday. The meeting will also include Finance Minister Tsutomu Hata and International Trade and Industry Minister Kozo Watanabe.

In addition, the vice premier is scheduled to meet economic leaders and make a speech on the current situation in China as well as China's view of bilateral relations.

The Chinese delegation is scheduled to inspect private companies and agricultural facilities during visits to Fukuoka, Kumamoto, Osaka, and Okayama in western Japan before returning to China on December 11.

Foreign Minister Meets Malaysian Finance Minister

OW2911132291 Tokyo KYODO in English 1305 GMT 29 Nov 91

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 29 KYODO—Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe told Malaysian Finance Minister Anwar Ibrahim on Friday that Japan's trade and security ties with the United States make it difficult for it to agree to the Malaysian-proposed East Asian Economic Caucus (EAEC).

Officials quoted Watanabe as saying in connection with the EAEC issue that Japan has no desire to worsen its cornerstone relations with the United States, with which it now has a large and problematic trade surplus.

He also noted the importance to Japan of its bilateral security arrangements with the U.S., officials said.

Officials said Watanabe told Anwar Ibrahim that Japan has reservations about the EAEC if it is to exclude the U.S.

The foreign minister said Japan attaches importance to the 15-member Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum, in which both sides of the Pacific are represented.

He said Japan wants to see that and all other regional groupings "open" to the rest of the world—including the European Community (EC) and the grouping to be formed by the North American Free Trade Agreement.

LDP Chief: Rice Decision Hinges on U.S., EC

OW3011090691 Tokyo KYODO in English 0858 GMT 30 Nov 91

[Text] Tonami, Toyama Pref., Nov. 30 KYODO—A ruling party leader said Saturday that Japan should tackle the issue of whether to open its rice market while watching developments in farm trade talks between the United States and Europe.

Tamisuke Watanuki, secretary general of the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), told a news conference in Tonami, Toyama Prefecture, Japan's decision is linked to progress in the negotiations between the United States and the European Community.

He said Japan should cooperate to make the ongoing Uruguay Round of multilateral trade talks a success.

Watanuki, whose constituency is in Toyama, said it would be difficult to revise the Staple Food Control Act in case Japan liberalizes rice imports because the House of Councillors is controlled by the opposition.

He also called on opposition parties to join the LDP in discussing the pending political reform.

Only with negotiations at a political reform forum established by the LDP and opposition parties can such reform be achieved, he said.

Watanuki urged thorough deliberation on the United Nations peacekeeping operations bill, indicating the LDP would seek a long- term extension of the current Diet session.

The bill would allow Japan's Self-Defense Forces personnel to engage in noncombat missions overseas to support U.N. peacekeeping.

Watanuki predicted the government will remove controls on loans related to real estate transactions toward the end of this year.

He showed dissatisfaction over the government's economic measures, saying it is too optimistic about the economy.

Keidanren Chief Urges Quick Decision on Rice

OW2911130991 Tokyo KYODO in English 1238 GMT 29 Nov 91

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 29 KYODO—The head of Japan's influential Federation of Economic Organizations (Keidanren) on Friday urged the government to come to a quick political decision on the proposed opening of the country's rice market.

Gaishi Hiraiwa, the chairman of Keidanren, told reporters the Japanese Government should take the initiative in the controversial rice issue so that the country will not be blamed for any further delay in the farm negotiations in the Uruguay round of multilateral trade negotiations.

He said action should also come before the proposed "tariffication" of rice, which would convert nontariff trade barriers to tariffs, is forced on Japan.

Masaru Hayami, chairman of the Japan Association of Corporate Executives, has also urged Japan to agree to the proposed tariffication.

Jiro Shiwaku, vice minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries for International Affairs, who returned Wednesday from the most recent round of international trade talks in Geneva, reported Friday he rejected a proposal for tariffication without exception, proposed by Arthur Dunkel, Director General of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.

He said the EC and the United States still differ on the base period for a reduction in farm subsidies and it is uncertain whether an agreement can be reached.

Sakhalin Governor Told of Food Aid Pledge

OW0212083691 Tokyo KYODO in English 0759 GMT 2 Dec 91

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 2 KYODO—Japan will provide some 20 million yen in food aid to the Soviet far east islands, including the disputed islands known as the northern territories, Foreign Ministry officials said Monday.

Officials said the pledge was made during a 20-minute meeting at the Foreign Ministry between Nagao Hyodo, director general of the European Affairs Bureau, and Valentin Fedorov, governor of the Sakhalin Province.

The province includes the large island of Sakhalin and the so-called northern territories—Kunashiri, Etorofu, Shikotan, and the Habomai Islands—formerly part of Japan but held by the Soviets since the end of World War II.

Officials said the aid represents the final portion of a 1 billion yen package of food aid Japan promised to the Soviet Union in December 1990.

Most of the food aid is expected to be sent in the form of powdered milk but specific details of the aid package are yet to be decided between the Japanese branch of the International Red Cross and the Sakhalin Red Cross.

The two Red Cross organizations have already established contacts.

Regarding the beneficiaries of the aid, officials said Japan has decided to place "priority" on the Russian residents of the northern territories.

Fedorov, who arrived on an unofficial visit to Japan on November 22, left later Monday. He was quoted as expressing his gratitude for the aid.

Officials said the governor, who has adamantly opposed Russian Federation moves toward a territorial compromise with Japan, "did not show any anxiety" over the political implications about the aid being targeted at the four disputed islands.

"It's just a small token of our goodwill," said one official. "If we were to spread this small amount of aid over the Sakhalin district as a whole, the impact would be limited."

Japanese and Russian officials have said public opinion on the four islands is an important consideration as the two facilitate a territorial settlement.

The Foreign Ministry has been considering ways of promoting a positive image of Japan among island residents, including mutual exchanges of visits at the grassroots level. Officials said the exchanges may begin in the spring.

Government Approves Food Aid to Angola, Ethiopia

OW2911052191 Tokyo KYODO in English 0434 GMT 29 Nov 91

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 29 (KYODO)—The government Friday approved the emergency shipment of 300,000 packs of hardtack to Angola and 400,000 packs of ship biscuits to Ethiopia to fight hunger in those countries, government officials said.

The government also decided to provide 52 million yen for forwarding charges for the deliveries, arranged through the World Food Program, the officials said.

People in Angola and Ethiopia face starvation as a result of civil war and drought. The two African countries have sought assistance from major industrialized nations including Japan.

Probe Launched on Alleged Alloy Imports Dumping

OW2911032691 Tokyo KYODO in English 2306 GMT 28 Nov 91

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 29 (KYODO)—The Japanese Government announced the start of an investigation Friday into alleged dumping by other nations of an imported alloy, the first such action to date.

The government will scrutinize ferro-silico-manganese imports from China, Norway, and South Africa, which the domestic industry has charged are being sold at unreasonably low prices and causing serious damage to Japan's domestic business, an official of the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) said.

The probe, conducted jointly by MITI and the Finance Ministry, follows a complaint filed October 8 by the Japan Ferroalloy Association, which represents the country's four makers of the product, a type of alloy used in steel manufacturing.

According to the petition, China has sold the product at more than 70 percent below Japanese prices, Norway at about 55 percent lower, and South Africa at nearly 70 percent lower.

As a result, the three countries allegedly boosted their exports to Japan to 138,000 tons last year from 95,000 tons a year earlier. Their market share here, accordingly, increased to 42.0 percent last year from 1989's 30.8 percent.

The dumping practice pushed down ferro-silico-manganese prices in Japan to such a level that the four domestic makers, including Nippon Denko Co. and Kobe Steel Ltd., suffered lower sales and profits, with some of them even plunging into the red.

The MITI official said it will take up to one year for the government to decide whether to levy antidumping duties but there may be an informal decision in about six months' time.

Japan has often been the target of dumping charges but has never officially made a case against other nations for dumping in Japan.

There have been three antidumping petitions in the past, including a 1988 complaint over South Korean-made sweaters, but each of the three was withdrawn before the government launched a formal study, apparently because the exporting countries subsequently raised prices to satisfactory levels, the official said.

He also said that in its investigation the government will pay heed to global moves to limit arbitrary use of antidumping measures.

The Uruguay Round of multilateral trade talks under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) is negotiating strengthening rules against antidumping abuses, often perceived in the United States and the European Community (EC) against cheaper products from Japan and developing nations.

Agreement With Arianespace on Substitute Satellite

OW2911113891 Tokyo KYODO in English 1046 GMT 29 Nov 91

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 29 KYODO—Space Communications Corp. (SCC), a Japanese communications firm in the Mitsubishi business group, announced Friday it has reached an agreement with the French Arianespace Company for the launching of a substitute for its "Superbird A" satellite, which went out of operation last December.

The new satellite "A" is scheduled to be launched in December next year and to start operating in February 1993, SCC officials said.

SCC, set by Mitsubishi Corp. and other Mitsubishi affiliates in 1985, also plans to launch a second "B" satellite next February. It, too, will be launched from French Guiana by an Ariane rocket. An earlier "B" launching failed in February last year, the officials said.

The new satellites will be manufactured by Space Systems Loral of the United States, they said.

The satellites, both with solar cell wings and 34 transponders each, will weigh 2,550 kilograms each at blast-off and should last 10 years, they said.

Foreign Minister Vows To Initiate Reforms

OW0212025991 Tokyo KYODO in English 0219 GMT 2 Dec 91

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 2 KYODO—Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe promised Monday to do his best to carry out a set of proposed reforms of the Foreign Ministry, which came under heavy criticism for alleged poor handling of the Persian Gulf crisis, officials said.

Watanabe made the comment after receiving a report from an advisory body, which called for implementation of structural reforms and the improvement of the examination system for recruiting diplomatic employees.

The report recommended that the Foreign Ministry increase its staff by 1,000 as soon as possible from the current 4,460 level.

It also proposed the development of a five-year project to improve the communications systems between diplomatic missions abroad, aimed at strengthening Japan's crisis management system.

Ryuzo Sejima, head of the panel, handed the report to Watanabe and told him that Japan needs to strengthen the Foreign Ministry and that its future depends on foreign policy.

Watanabe told Sejima that he will establish a task force on how to implement the recommendations.

The panel was set up in September at the instruction of then Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu.

Finance Ministry Predicts 1992 Revenue Shortfall

OW2811143391 Tokyo KYODO in English 1338 GMT 28 Nov 91

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 28 KYODO—State tax and other revenues in fiscal 1992 will fall about 6 trillion yen short of expected government expenditures, the Finance Ministry told a government advisory panel Thursday.

The ministry submitted its tax revenue estimate for fiscal 1992 to the tax commission, an advisory body to the prime minister, which Thursday began to discuss possible tax reforms for the next fiscal year.

The report estimated total tax revenue in fiscal 1992 to be about 62 trillion yen, a figure 3 trillion yen lower than the ministry's earlier projection.

Combined with miscellaneous revenue from other sources, the government's total income for the next fiscal year will be 68.61 trillion yen, the report said.

Government expenditures for the year, however, will total 76.18 trillion yen if individual ministry funding requests—as submitted to the Finance Ministry August—are fully granted.

At the Thursday commission meeting, there was a consensus among the commission members that the consumption tax should not be raised from the current 3 percent rate, and that the government should not resume issuing debt-financing bonds to fill the expected financial gap, said Hiroshi Kato, the commission chairman.

Many commission members called for major cuts in budgetary outlays and the issuance of construction bonds, if necessary, to compensate for the shortfall, Kato said at a press conference.

Some members said the government should consider raising taxes only after all other possible measures are taken first.

But the commission members were split over whether to continue the special 6 percent consumption tax on cars, and special taxes for Japan's 9 billion dollar contribution to Allied forces during the Persian Gulf war, Kato said.

Kato said commission members also failed to agree on how to spend money collected under a newly-created land value tax.

Some members argued that revenue from the new tax should be used for reducing other taxes, while others said it should be spent on land measures.

Tax Revenues Top 3.1 Trillion Yen in Oct

OW0212064791 Tokyo KYODO in English 0614 GMT 2 Dec 91

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 2 KYODO—Government tax revenue in October amounted to 3,125.7 billion yen, bringing the accumulated total so far in fiscal 1991 to 20,851.5 billion yen, the Finance Ministry said Monday.

The accumulated total from April through October came to 33.8 percent of the planned overall expenditure in the general account budget, the ministry said.

The comparative figure for fiscal 1990 was 35.2 percent.

At this pace, the ministry has estimated, the total tax revenue will fall short of the budgetary outlay for fiscal 1991 by 2.8 trillion yen.

Dragging down the tax revenue are declines in revenue from corporate and securities exchange taxes, and stamp duties.

The revenue from corporate tax totaled 3,319.6 billion yen in the first seven months of the current fiscal year, down 17.5 percent from the previous year, due to falling profits of companies.

The revenue from the securities transactions tax, plagued by a weak stock market, amounted to only 237.6 billion yen, down 45.6 percent, and that from stamp duties came to 995.6 billion, down 22.9 percent.

The total tax revenues so far in the current fiscal year are 1.6 percent lower than the figure for the same period last year.

Nov Foreign Currency Reserves Rise $750 Million

OW0212093391 Tokyo KYODO in English 0904 GMT 2 Dec 91

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 2 KYODO—Japan's foreign currency reserves amounted to 67,939 million dollars at the end of November, up 750 million dollars from the previous month, the Finance Ministry said Monday.

The monthly upswing in November was the third in a row, a ministry official said.

Japan's foreign reserves are the third largest in the world, following those of Taiwan and the United States, the official said.

"The reserves will remain on an uptrend for the time being," the official said.

Trading on the Tokyo Foreign Exchange market during the month was relatively calm, with the average daily turnover of yen-dollar transactions made through currency brokers at 6.1 billion dollars, down from 8.8 billion dollars in October, he said.

The dollar started November at 130.60 yen on the Tokyo market, and moved in a range between 127.95 and 130.80 yen during the month.

The yen gained against the dollar due to spreading pessimism about the U.S. economy and Bank of Japan Governor Yasushi Mieno's remarks that were perceived as signaling the central bank's willingness to allow the yen to firm further against the dollar.

The dollar, however, stabilized at around the 130 yen level by the end of November after Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnaze's remarks about another possible coup in the Soviet Union clouded even more the political outlook for the country, the official said.

Bank Governor Mieno Rules Out Another Rate Cut

OW0212094091 Tokyo KYODO in English 0915 GMT 2 Dec 91

[Text] Nagoya, Dec. 2 KYODO—Bank of Japan Governor Yasushi Mieno, bucking pressure from the business community, said Monday he has no intention of implementing another cut in the official discount rate.

Mieno told a news conference the previous half-point rate cut November 14 finished a round of adjustments for the economic slowdown and the central bank is not considering another reduction in the key interest rate.

Mieno, in a meeting with business leaders in the Nagoya area earlier Monday, said "easy" measures to boost domestic demand should be avoided.

The central banker said there is little possibility that the domestic economy will stall although it is continuing to slow down at a slow tempo.

He said the central bank is monitoring the effects of the previous rate cut.

He declined to comment on the price fall on the Tokyo Stock Exchange, saying he is not in a position to comment on the matter.

But he did say he does not think the stock market slump will deal a heavy blow to the domestic economy.

Mieno said the recent series of financial scandals provided a proper opportunity for corporations to reexamine their management policies which emphasize profits and business expansion.

Business Leaders Oppose Extending Oil, Auto Tax

OW2911140991 Tokyo KYODO in English 1256 GMT 29 Nov 91

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 29 KYODO—Two Japanese business leaders said Friday they firmly oppose a proposal to extend a special tax on oil and automobiles to cover the expected revenue shortfall for the next fiscal year.

Gaishi Hiraiwa, chairman of the Federation of Economic Organizations (Keidanren), said at a press meeting, "it is wrong to impose the tax without much thought."

He said the government should stick to the original stand of imposing the special tax for only one year.

The government introduced a 6 percent consumption tax on those products in April in order to raise money for Japan's financial contributions to the U.S.-led allied forces in the Persian Gulf War.

The tax is set to expire next March 31. But with an expected revenue shortfall in fiscal 1992 amid a slowing economy, the government is reportedly considering extending the term.

Hiraiwa said, "the government should make efforts to cut its expenditures before thinking of such taxation."

Masaru Hayami, chairman of the Japan Association of Corporate Executives (Doyukai), also said in a separate press meeting he opposes using such a tax for a purpose different from the original one.

However, Takeshi Nagano, president of the Japan Federation of Employers' Associations (Nikkeiren), earlier expressed acceptance of the government plan to apply the tax beyond the prescribed period.

Hiraiwa said Keidanren will increase pressure on the government not to extend the tax.

He said the levels of tax revenues in past years were "unusually high" because of the nation's strong "bubble" economy.

The government should be able to create a favorable economic climate to enable tax revenues to increase, he said, adding he also opposes issuing debt-financing bonds as a means of covering budgetary shortfalls.

Auto Industry, EC Oppose Vehicle Tax Extension

OW3011083091 Tokyo KYODO in English 0709 GMT 30 Nov 91

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 30 KYODO—The Japanese automobile industry has joined its European counterpart in opposing a Finance Ministry plan to retain the consumption tax on vehicles at 6 percent beyond next April 1, industry sources said Saturday.

Yutaka Kume, president of the Japan Automobile Manufacturers Association, told a recent news conference, "the tax should be reduced to 3 percent as promised."

The government pledged to bring down the tax rate to 3 percent from 6 percent next April when it introduced the new levy in April 1989.

Peter Woods, chairman of the European business community in Tokyo and president of the Japanese subsidiary of the Rover group, lodged a protest against retention of the tax rate in meetings Monday and Wednesday with officials of the Finance Ministry and the International Trade and Industry Ministry, respectively.

Japanese automakers expressed hope a tax reduction will help recover the sales slump in the domestic car market.

The Finance Ministry plans to retain the tax level at 6 percent beyond next April in face of an expected huge revenue shortfall in fiscal 1992.

The ministry's plan came as a surprise to both domestic and foreign automakers, which are expected to suffer substantial profit declines in the current business year because of flagging demand at home and overseas, the industry sources said.

The manufacturers estimate that a 3 percent tax reduction would increase new car demand by 100,000 vehicles, which in turn would enable the government to recoup 118.1 billion yen of an estimated 200 billion yen revenue fall to be caused by the tax reduction in fiscal 1992.

Association President Kume, in a recent meeting with Kabun Muto, chairman of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party's Tax System Research Commission, said the government should live up to its promise to lower the tax, saying increased car sales will help stimulate the domestic economy, the sources said.

Cutback in Subsidies to Local Governments Sought

OW2911120791 Tokyo KYODO in English 1120 GMT 29 Nov 91

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 29 KYODO—The Ministry of Finance (MOF) started negotiations Friday with the Ministry of Home Affairs on plans to cut at least 1 trillion yen from grants to local governments.

Distribution of the local subsidies—which come from tax revenues—has become a focal point in internal government negotiations aimed at cutting fiscal 1992 state budget expenditures.

State tax and other fiscal 1992 revenues will fall about 6 trillion yen short of expected government expenditures in the same year, if no action is taken to remedy the situation, ministry officials said.

The subsidies come from a 32 percent portion of income tax, corporate tax, and liquor tax revenues, and from 24 percent of money collected under the consumption tax, and other taxes.

In the initial 1991 general-account budget, the subsidies totaled 15.97 trillion yen, or 23 percent of the total.

The officials said local governments are expected to have a large surplus in fiscal 1991, the third consecutive year they have had such a surplus.

Ex-Reporter Wins Kochi Gubernatorial Contest

OW0112120591 Tokyo KYODO in English 1138 GMT 1 Dec 91

[Text] Kochi, Dec. 1 KYODO—Daijiro Hashimoto, a former television network reporter and brother of former Finance Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto, won the Kochi Prefecture gubernatorial election on Sunday, early returns showed.

At 44, Hashimoto became the nation's youngest prefectural governor.

He succeeds Gov. Tsutomu Nakauchi, 79, who is retiring after serving four consecutive four-year terms.

Backed by the Social Democratic Party, Hashimoto beat two candidates—Shosuke Kawasaki, a former vice governor supported by the ruling Liberal Democratic Party, and Seiichiro Mori, a physician supported by the japanese Communist Party.

It was the first major setback for new Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa, whose ruling party formally supported the 63-year-old Kawasaki.

Initial returns, reflecting 6 percent of all votes cast, showed Hashimoto collected 14,739 votes, Kawasaki 9,986, and Mori 2,156.

Incumbent Osaka Mayor Nishio Wins Election

OW0112130691 Tokyo KYODO in English 1246 GMT 1 Dec 91

[Text] Osaka, Dec. 1 KYODO—Incumbent Osaka Mayor Masaya Nishio, overcoming a controversy surrounding the city's spending, was easily reelected Sunday as he beat four other candidates in the mayoral contest.

Tabulating roughly half of all votes cast, the early returns showed Nishio, 65, garnered 193,640 votes, against Nobuyo Fujinaga, the runner-up who collected 100,274.

Nishio was supported by all major political parties except for the Japanese Communist Party which endorsed Fujinaga, the only female candidate in the five-way race.

Voter turnout was 34.26 percent, the lowest recorded in Osaka's mayoral contests since World War II. The previous record was 34.85 percent in 1971.

Mongolia

Foreign Minister on Improving USSR, PRC Ties

OW2711093991 Beijing XINHUA in English 0901 GMT 27 NOV 91

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, November 27 (XINHUA)—The foreign minister of Mongolia said here today that the first priority of Mongolia's external relations is to consolidate and develop relations with China and the Soviet Union.

The Mongolian foreign minister, Tserenpiliyn Gombosuren, made these remarks at a press conference marking the 70 anniversary of the establishment of the Mongolian Ministry of External Relations.

He said that his country has totally cast off the way of developing diplomatic relations according to ideology and no longer adopts one-sided foreign policy.

A major guideline in the country's external relations is to develop relations also with Western countries, while strengthen ties, especially economic ones, with Asian countries, he added.

North Korea

U.S.-ROK Exercises 26-27 November Reported

SK3011042891 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0410 GMT 30 Nov 91

[Text] Pyongyang November 30 (KCNA)—The U.S. Pacific Air Force Command and naval command staged joint aerial and ground strike exercises in the sky above South Korea on November 26 and 27, seeking to increase their capabilities of joint strike at targets in the strategical depths of the northern half of Korea, according to military sources.

Mobilized in the exercises were formations of fighter planes of various types based in Japan proper and the Pacific and fighter planes belonging to the U.S. Air Force present in South Korea and the puppet air force, more than 450 all told.

On November 26, mechanized and armored units of the U.S. imperialist aggressor troops set a target of attack in an area near the Military Demarcation Line (MDL) and staged an attack exercise against the North with the support of some 20 fighter-bombers and pursuit-assault planes.

On November 26 and 27, 105 mm artillery groups and armed bandits of the South Korean puppet army committed a gunfiring in the vicinity of the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) of the MDL.

On November 26, South Korean puppets perpetrated espionage on the frontline area of the North side and hostile acts with a camera- loaded pilotless reconnaissance plane.

On November 26 and 27, some 30 armed helicopters and formations of transport helicopters held aerial strike, parachuting and airlifting exercises aimed at breaking through the MDL and infiltrating into in-depth areas.

The warplanes mobilized in aerial war games in this period totaled more than 1,200.

U.S. 'Espionage' Acts Against North Reported

SK0212103091 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0956 GMT 2 Dec 91

[Text] Pyongyang December 2 (KCNA)—The U.S. imperialists committed electronic espionages on the targets of the strategical depth of the northern half of Korea on November 29 and 30, letting a U-2 high-altitude strategic reconnaissance plane repeatedly fly from west to east along the Military Demarcation Line, according to military sources.

Earlier, on November 28, they brought Pacific-based E-3A early warning plane to the sky above South Korea and made it command flying corps mobilized in the aerial war exercises, making a shuttle flight from the East Sea to West Sea of Korea. They also committed an aerial photographing and espionage on the depth of our side.

They mobilized a RV-1 Army tactical reconnaissance plane four or five times every day to commit comprehensive electronic espionages on the frontline and coastal areas of our side, repeatedly flying from Kanghwa Island to the air above Yonchon, from the air above Yonchon to the air above Sokcho.

The aerial espionages committed by the U.S. imperialists against our side with the mobilization of various types of reconnaissance planes numbered more than 200 in November alone.

Dailies Denounce U.S. 'Anti-Libya Campaign'

SK0112093091 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0837 GMT 1 Dec 91

["Base Anti-Libya Campaign"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang December 1 (KCNA)—Papers here today carry commentaries denouncing the anti-Libya campaign of the United States over the explosion of a plane of the Pan-American Airlines in December 1988.

A news analyst of NODONG SINMUN says:

In this connection, the United States is threatening a military retaliation on Libya. Of course, the mastermind of terrorism must be meted out a due punishment. But it is unjustifiable for the United States to threaten a military retaliation on a sovereign state without a clear evidence. It gravely contravenes principles of international law, regulations of the relations between countries and elementary morality. The point is that it should be dealt with not by strength but impartially by principles of international law.

A commentary of MINJU CHOSON says: We actively support the stand of Libya demanding that the investigation into the explosion of the passenger plane be conducted as required by unbiased international law.

Fifth-Round N-S Delegates' Contacts Summarized

SK0112061791 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0800 GMT 28 Nov 91

[Text] We will now give a report on the status of contacts between the North and South delegates to the fifth round of the North-South high-level talks.

Delegates of the two sides to the fifth round of the North-South high-level talks met four times in Panmunjom from 11 to 26 November. According to an agreement reached between the North and the South at the fourth round of their high-level talks, both sides, at their delegations' contact, discussed arranging the contents of a single document of an agreement on reconciliation, nonaggression, cooperation, and exchanges between the North and South.

Proceeding with a sincere desire to open a new phase for peace and peaceful reunification, our side has made every possible effort to adopt a North-South single agreement at the fifth round of the North-South high-level talks since the beginning of the first round of delegates' contact.

At the first round of the contact, our side put forward a draft agreement on arranging the contents of an agreement reached between both sides in the past and on its main subjects, such as 1) North- South Reconciliation, 2) North-South Nonaggression, 3) North-South Cooperation and Exchange, and 4) Amendment and Effectuation. This draft agreement contained 21 articles in accordance with the main subjects. In addition, this was the most reasonable and fair agreement in arranging the main subjects' contents.

In fact, our side's draft agreement harmoniously included the following issues: To give priority to the common interests of the nation; to realize the national reconciliation and unity; to prevent encroachment and conflict by armed force; to guarantee detente and peace; to stop confrontation and competition in all fields of politics, economy, and culture; to realize cooperation and exchanges in those fields; to recognize that relations between the two sides are not like relations between countries; and to make efforts to expedite peace and peaceful reunification based on reconfirmation of the three principles for national reunification set forth in the 4 July Joint Statement.

At the fourth round of talks held in Pyongyang, the North and South respectively proposed a single document. The two sides decided on the title of the agreement, which will be adopted at their upcoming talks, and its main subjects. Under these circumstances, both sides should work out a draft agreement in accordance with this, thus coordinating the contents and documents of the agreement. This is the first priority for both sides.

By the way, the South side, which is one party in the dialogue, participated in the contacts with no preparation. Because of this, we could not actually enter into discussions on arranging the documents of an agreement at the first round of contact between delegates.

Proceeding from a desire to more easily reach an agreement, therefore, our side could not but put forward a new draft agreement at the second round of delegates' contact, taking into consideration the South side's opinion even though the already proposed draft agreement was a reasonable one in making the contacts between delegates of the two sides fruitful.

At the third and fourth round of contacts between delegates, our side put forward an epochal and flexible proposal to reach an agreement in solving the basic disharmonious problems between the two sides and to adopt the historic joint agreement between the North and the South at the fifth round of the North-South high-level talks.

By doing so, our side discovered a breakthrough for reaching an agreement between the two sides and for narrowing their differences of opinions on a series of major problems concerning the agreement.

At the first round of delegates' talks, however, the South side created an artificial obstacle in coordinating the contents and in arranging the documents of an agreement to adopt a single joint agreement between the North and South, by presenting documents of an agreement adhering to "first confidence-building and first exchanges" based on recognizing the conception of two states. This did not comply with the agreement's contents and main subjects agreed upon between the two sides.

The South side, without sincerity, only classified the content of the agreement—which it had presented—into articles according to the subtitles and presented this at the first contact. It came to the second contact empty-handed, without carrying any proposal, and repeated its old argument. At the third contact, it changed a few letters in the preface but showed no change in its attitude. At the fourth contact, it failed to produce any compromise proposal, insisting that there was no room for it to back down.

For two sides to show sincerity, make compromises, and attempt to reach consensus are basic principles that they must adhere to in dialogue. However, during the four rounds of contact between delegates, the South side repeated its incorrect arguments and behaved unreasonably.

The problems in the draft agreement as presented by the South side are:

First, it consistently presented a criminal document for fixing the present division of the country and legalizing two Koreas. During the fourth North-South high-level talks, the South side openly and clearly wrote the two sides' country names in the title and preface of its draft agreement. When we strongly protested and condemned this, it removed the country names. Because it could no longer use the country names in the draft agreement, at the contact of delegates, the South side made every effort to legalize the presence of the two states in the North and South.

In an effort to legalize two Koreas by all means, the South side included in the preface of their draft agreement the words: The two sides take note of their acceptance of obligations stipulated in the UN Charter as its member states and admit that the relations between the sides are special relations.

This is an attempt to make the UN admission of the North and South an accomplished fact in relations between states. This is in stark contrast to the fact we included in the preface of our draft agreement that reads: The two sides recognize that their relations are not relations between states.

The South side's divisionist position is more clearly shown in that it included in North-South reconciliation, a subtitle of its draft agreement, the expression that the North and South respect each other based on the recognition of the reality of North-South relations. Even while we insist that the two sides recognize and respect the existing ideas and systems, the South always insists that the two sides recognize reality.

The South side insists that the two sides recognize reality. This does not mean that the two sides must recognize the socialist reality in the North and the capitalist reality in the South but that we recognize two states, the South side's state policy of anticommunism, and its legal and systematic devices—which hinder national reconciliation and unity.

When it could not but accept our compromise proposal that the preface of our draft agreement include the expression that North- South relations are not relations between states and that the two sides use expressions on systems in the draft agreement as they think fit, the South side reluctantly removed the expression recognizing reality in the third contact.

The South side's divisionist position is more clearly shown in the fact that it proposed that permanent liaison offices open in Seoul and Pyongyang. Because Seoul and Pyongyang are not far away from each other, because communications lines are available between them, and because North-South joint committees will be established in various sectors, it is not necessary to open permanent liaison offices in Pyongyang and Seoul. Even though we strongly demanded that the issue of opening permanent liaison offices be removed from the draft agreement, the South side merely changed the expression into permanent liaison secretariat [*samucho*], and did not accept to the end our compromise proposal that separate permanent liaison offices open in Panmunjom. This is irrefutable evidence that clearly shows how persistently the South side is pursuing the legalization of two states.

A second problem in the draft agreement presented by the South side is that its content was consistently dependent on outside forces and reflected the flunkeyist stand bereft of national identity.

In the part of the draft agreement concerning nonaggression, the South side strongly insisted that a paragraph be clearly written regarding the part on settling disagreements and disputes between the two sides as stipulated in the United Nation's Charter. Since we are not discussing the issue of nonaggression with another nation or country and maintain that this must be resolved through consultations between the North and South, there is really no need to use the expression that this issue should be settled as stipulated in the United Nation's Charter. The United Nation's Charter itself points out that within the nation, this Charter has no international significance.

Our side repeatedly discussed with the South side that the part on resolving the issue between the North and South according to the United Nation's Charter be eliminated in the draft agreement because it runs counter to our sense of sovereignty. However, the South side said that this is only for the purpose of clearly stating in advance the guideline for settling issues of disputes. The South side persistently insisted in its fondness for depending on outside forces.

Our side proposed that if it is necessary to make some kind of guideline, we should include the three-point principle of the reunification of the fatherland as already agreed upon by the North and South. Regarding this, the South side was not able to deny this but without any specific reason it selfishly insisted on the paragraph of the mediation of outside forces as stipulated in the United Nation's Charter. The South side rejected our just proposal.

The South side's position of being dependent on outside forces attracted attention because concerning revision and effectuation in the draft agreement, the paragraph which both sides are trying to adopt would not affect the bilateral and multilateral pacts and agreements which had already been signed and were in force by both sides. The South side did not insist on this paragraph in the beginning, but it suddenly added this matter to the draft agreement in the fourth round of North-South high-level talks.

The reason that the South side included this new paragraph was to give priority to the already signed ROK-U.S. Mutual Defense Agreement rather than the agreement on reconciliation, nonaggression and cooperation and exchange between the North and South, so that it can continue to keep the U.S. forces in South Korea. The South side unreservedly revealed this.

The South side knows well that at first our side clearly wrote that the agreement adopted by the North and South will not be restricted by pacts and agreements concluded with other countries, but eliminated this paragraph so that it would be easy for the two sides to reach an agreement. If we follow the South side's claim, it is all right for any North-South agreement to be superseded by any pacts or agreements made with outside forces. If this is the case, why would an agreement be necessary for the nation?

The third problem in the draft agreement presented by the South side is that it made it clear that it had no intention to resolve the issue of nonaggression with us.

On the issue of creating an atmosphere for military trust which will be resolved naturally in the process of arms reduction, the South side separated only this issue and made seven detailed paragraphs, which is unreasonable and unsuitable for the document. The South side stubbornly insisted that it cannot carry out nonaggression as long as we do not accept this.

The detailed paragraphs of creating an atmosphere for military trust include exchange of information and military personnel, inspection of exercises, notification, verification, and a system for observation. These matters are not to be included in promising North-South nonaggression.

It does not make sense to say that these detailed paragraphs must be included to establish military trust. Can the South side, which does not have real power over the military, provide us with military information? What kind of information? How does the South side intend to exchange it when it neither confirms nor denies U.S. nuclear weapons in South Korea? When our side asked the South side if the danger of war will be removed if one side notifies the other of a military exercise and if the other side observes it, it was not able to answer.

Although it is just and reasonable that the line of nonaggression should be the Military Demarcation Line, as was signed in the military armistice in Korea on 27 July 1953, the South side was persistent about what territory belonged to each country. They asserted that areas under each side's jurisdiction should belong to that side, thus making it impossible to find common ground.

In the fourth round of Pyongyang talks, the South side ignored our proposal on adopting the declaration on the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula and unprecedentedly raised the issue of removing nuclear weapons. When our side asked if this also meant the withdrawal of all U.S. nuclear weapons, the South side for the first time officially admitted that there are U.S. nuclear weapons in South Korea and that it meant the withdrawal of all U.S. nuclear weapons in the South. However, the South side later was busy making poor excuses, saying that it had not mentioned this before.

Considering the South side's opinion, we proposed a compromise: providing an atmosphere of trust and reducing arms in order to guarantee nonaggression. However, the South insisted on trust first and then arms reduction, opposing the promise to achieve nonaggression.

There were some delegates from the South side who wanted an atmosphere of trust created and arms reduced simultaneously. However, other delegates said that if trust is like the front door of a house, arms reduction is like a room into which one must enter through the front door. This illustrates the inconsistency among the South delegates. Therefore, no common ground was sought in the issue of nonaggression.

The fourth problem in the South's draft agreement is that it did not want reconciliation between the North and South and reflected a negative stand on it.

The South side objected to our proposal to include in the reconciliation part the paragraphs on free travel for and contacts between people from all walks of life and compatriots. This is a fundamental issue in reconciliation. From this viewpoint, the South side put conditions that should be included in the part on nonaggression or cooperation and exchange into the part on reconciliation, thus creating a barrier to settlement.

Reconciliation between the North and South cannot be considered without free travel and contact between figures from all walks of life and compatriots. Nevertheless, the South side regarded this issue as if it were a communist strategy and stressed that it cannot be included in the part on reconciliation.

The South side insisted that the paragraph calling for replacement of the existing truce system with a peace system between the North and South be included in the part of reconciliation. Considering the nature of this issue, it should be resolved by the United States and us—the parties to the armistice agreement. Also, in view of its content, this should be included in the part on nonaggression, which deals with peace.

Without giving any reason, the South side stubbornly insisted that it is also a party to Korea's armistice agreement. When we recalled that we were not a member of the UN Forces at that time, that Syngman Rhee opposed the armistice agreement, and that the South Korean National Assembly resolved and declared the invalidity of the armistice agreement in February 1958, the South side did not make any more excuses.

Moreover, our side repeatedly claimed that replacing the armistice agreement with a peace agreement cannot be resolved between the North and South because the party to the armistice agreement is the United States. The United States currently holds the prerogative of supreme command of South Korea's military. Nevertheless, the South side claims that it goes against common sense to say that it is difficult to view the United States as the party concerned just because it supported the war and that because it was the North and South who were at war they must be the parties concerned. Our side proposed a compromise plan to regulate the content so that joint efforts can be made to turn the armistice into solid peace. However, the South side rejected this also.

The concept of armistice is a military concept, and we interpreted it convincingly: It should naturally be transferred to the part on nonaggression that concerns peace. However, the South said they cannot resolve this issue, intentionally evading the settlement of issues on reconciliation.

Fifth, though the South side cried for cooperation and exchange, it demonstrated clearly in the delegates' contacts that this is not what it really wanted. In the part on cooperation and exchange in its draft agreement, the South emphasized only the paragraphs on opening—traffic, communications, and trade—complicating issues by repeating them in an attempt to lead the North to openness and reforms, not calling for multi-faceted cooperation and exchange suitable to the subtitle. Because of our just demands and with the fourth round of contacts approaching, we were compelled to agree on some detailed clauses concerning traffic, communications, and trade. But by insisting on the clause on the formation of the three-matters committee, which by its nature must be discussed and solved in the cooperation and exchange subcommittee to be formed, and the clauses aimed at leading us to openness, the South side made it difficult for us to agree on this part.

The whole course of the delegates' contacts clearly showed who wanted reconciliation, nonaggression, cooperation, and exchange and reunification and who sought confrontation, war, and division.

Through the four delegates' contacts for the fifth round of North-South high level talks, the South side fully revealed its true intention to refuse to adopt any document of agreement for fellow countrymen, reconciliation, unity, peace, and reunification.

The delegates' contacts convinced us that the South side intended to use the high level talks not for peace and reunification but as another way to insure long terms of office for the present authorities. Moreover, the South side has sought confrontation with us more openly and seriously away from the dialogue. As soon as they returned to Seoul after agreeing to adopt the joint document of agreement at the fourth round of talks in Pyongyang, they showed how two-faced they are by staging the provocative joint military exercise Foal

Eagle-91 with an outside force against fellow countrymen, the other party to the dialogue, as the hypothetical enemy. They also signed a war provocation document reeking of powder, holding the so-called annual Security Consultative Meeting with the United States behind the scenes of the delegates' contact with us.

The war maniacs of the South Korean military are now watching for a chance to attack us by surprise, infatuated with prevailing over communism. Prevailing over communism is a foolish man's illusion which will never come true. The socialism of our own style centered on the popular masses is ever-victorious.

The South side can by no means evade responsibility for leading the finalization of the North-South joint agreement to failure, trying to read outside forces' minds, seeking an anachronistic confrontation policy, and showing insincerity in the delegates' contacts.

North, South Liaison Officials Meet at Panmunjom

SK0212102491 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1017 GMT 2 Dec 91

[Text] Panmunjom December 2 (KCNA)—A contact of chief liaison officials for fifth North-South high-level talks took place at the Tongil House in the North side's portion of Panmunjom this afternoon.

The timetable of the fifth talks and other working matters were discussed at the contact.

The sides agreed to have the next contact in the South side's portion of Panmunjom on December 5.

South Said Seeking 'Permanent Division'

SK0212104491 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1011 GMT 2 Dec 91

["South Korean Authorities Should Immediately Stop Scheme for Permanent Division"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang December 2 (KCNA)—The South Korean authorities should look squarely at the current of the times and immediately stop the criminal schemings to fix the division of the country and create "two Koreas" by taking advantage of the entry into the United Nations, stresses NODONG SINMUN today in a byliner headlined "Intensified Moves for Permanent Division With the Entry Into the United Nations"

The article says:

As the sinister intention of the South Korean authorities to perpetuate and legalise the division of the country and the nation by using such international lever as the entry into the United Nations was brought into bolder relief we took a decisive step to join in the United Nations recently so as to prevent the grave consequences arising therefrom and solve the Korean issue in the interests of the nation.

Though our Republic has become a U.N. member, there is no change in its basic policy and stand on the reunification of the country.

We will make every effort to achieve the reunification of the country with the great unity of the nation and hasten the day when a reunified Korea takes one seat in the United Nations.

The South Korean ruling quarters, however, are claiming that the separate entry of the North and the South into the U.N. is tantamount to recognising "two Koreas" and weaving a plot to declare it at home and abroad as an agreement of the North and the South.

At the four contacts between delegates of the two sides for the 5th inter-Korean high-level talks the South Korean authorities insisted on a criminal document intended to fix the division of the country and legalise "two Koreas".

By undisguisedly pursuing the policy of "two Koreas" with the entry into the United Nations as an occasion the South Korean ruling quarters are committing one more indelible crime before history and the nation.

The manoeuvrings of the South Korean ruling quarters to perpetuate the division shot that the No Tae-u "regime" is the group of traitors who make no scruple of committing a criminal act of dividing the country and the nation for ever for the personal comfort and political greed.

South's Yielding on Rice Market Opening Denounced

SK3011050691 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0430 GMT 30 Nov 91

["Protest Against Treachery"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang November 30 (KCNA)—It is only too natural for the peasants and other people of South Korea to fight in two consecutive months against the U.S. imperialists' pressure for the opening of agricultural and livestock products market and the treacherous act of No Tae-u yielding to it, says NODONG SINMUN today.

Recalling that rice market opening, according to elementary estimation, will slash the income of the South Korean peasants by 5,200,000 million won a year and the loss per household averaged 5.4 million won in the last eight or nine years, the news analyst points out:

The U.S. imperialist aggressors are putting pressure upon South Korea to completely open the rice market, shamelessly crying that the orientals like rice.

The puppets are yielding to the U.S. imperialists' pressure for market opening, not uttering a word of objection, and weaving a plot to completely liberalise the import of agricultural and livestock products by 1997.

For the U.S. imperialist aggressors to demand the rice market opening in disregard of the South Korean agriculture and the livelihood of the peasants is brigandish arbitrariness of the colonial ruler and the act of the puppets bent on the shipment of rice from foreign countries, ignoring the strong protest of the people, is an unpardonable anti-national criminal act of plunging South Korean agriculture as a whole into catastrophe, subservient to the foreign forces, and tightening the rope around the neck of the peasants.

It is not because the South Korean peasants have food to spare that they are demanding the purchase of autumn crops. They are demanding the purchase of their rice because they have to cover the living costs and need money for farming next year, though they foresee famine.

No Tae-u should increase the amount of the purchase of autumn crops, purchase the whole amount of rice demanded by peasants and immediately stop the scheme to open the agricultural and livestock products market.

Death of Reunification Group Official Announced

SK0112091491 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0827 GMT 1 Dec 91

[Text] Pyongyang December 1 (KCNA)—Comrade Yo Pong-ku, director of the Secretariat of the Central Committee [C.C.] of the Democratic Front for the Reunification of the Fatherland and deputy to the Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, died from a sudden illness on November 30, 1991, at the age of 55.

According to the obituary, he was born in Seoul on December 24, 1936, under the colonial rule of Japanese imperialism. Living with his father Mr. Yo On-hyong who conducted energetic activities for national unity against outside forces as the leader of the People's Party of South Korea right after the liberation of the country, he always revered General Kim Il-song, the sun of the nation, and after coming over to the northern half of the country, went through the course of higher education under his deep loving care and did important work in different domains of the national economy.

Working as vice-chairman of the C.C., the Chondoist Chongu Party and deputy to the DPRK Supreme People's Assembly from April 1990 and then director of the Secretariat of the C.C., the Democratic Front for the Reunification of the Fatherland, he devotedly worked to implement the policy of national reunification and the policy of united front put forward by the Workers' Party of Korea.

KCNA Reviews 28 Nov Pyongyang Press

SK2811055391 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0502 GMT 28 Nov 91

[Press review]

[Text] Pyongyang November 28 (KCNA)—Papers here today carry a message of greetings sent by President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to Maaouiya Ould Sid'Ahmed Taya, president of the Military Committee of National Salvation and head of state of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania, on the occasion of the 31st anniversary of the national independence of the Mauritanian people.

NODONG SINMUN carries words of South Korean people intensely longing for our-style socialism established by the great leader President Kim Il-song and led by the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong- il.

An article of the paper deals with the wise guidance of officials by Comrade Kim Chong-il to work with a stand and attitude befitting the master of revolution and revolutionary traits.

Thanks of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea was conveyed to the party members of the cell of persons of distinguished service of Wonsan University of Agriculture who set an example in the work of education and training, says the press.

NODONG SINMUN carries words of the members of the delegation for the study of the chuche idea of Portugal envying the Korean people the great leaders.

An article of MINJU CHOSON says that Comrade Kim Chong-sok, an indomitable communist revolutionary fighter, vigorously roused people of all walks of life in Sonbong County, north Hamgyong Province, in the building of a new country right after liberation.

Econews of the press includes reports about increased production of irons and steels at the Songjin steel complex and meetings for year-end account settlement and income distribution at rural villages.

MINJU CHOSON editorially calls on officials and working people to launch a powerful mass movement of learning from the noble example of twice labour heroine Chong Chon-sil, director of the Chonchon County, Chagang Province, commercial management office, who has devotedly worked for the people.

NODONG SINMUN informs the readers that an agreement on the establishment of friendly relations between Pyongyang and Montevideo and an agreement on cooperation between the Korean Medical Association and the Mongolian Doctors' Scientific Association were signed and a function marking the 10th anniversary of the establishment of the Chollima institute of agricultural science in Tanzania was held in that country.

The second-day session of the second seminar on "Peace of Asia and the Role of Women" was held, the Women's delegation of our side participating in the seminar held a round-table conversation with officials concerned of women's organisations of South Korea and the South Korean authorities persecuted relatives of visitors to the North and women activists who intended to take part in the seminar, according to the press.

Papers inform the readers that a South Korean Son Su-kuk came over to the northern half of Korea with his family.

They carry a press statement of the central standing committee of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon) denouncing the "wartime support agreement".

Commenting on the fact that South Korean trade deficit had reached 11,795 million dollars by November 20, NODONG SINMUN says this is a product of the anti-national policy of the No Tae-u ruling group depending on outside forces and its reactionary economic policy.

The paper reports that the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets staged another large-scale aerial war exercise against the North.

Included in the South Korean news columns of papers are reports that over 10,000 workers of Koje Daewoo Shipbuilding, Ltd. boycotted work in protest against the authorities' suppression of leading union members and a national peasants rally was held in seoul to check rice import from the united states and get a fair rice price.

NODONG SINMUN runs a commentary denouncing the U.S. imperialists' jargon at the U.S.-South Korea "Security Consultative Meeting" describing the U.S. troops present in South Korea as a peace-keeping force.

Foreign news columns of the press include reports that the chairman of the executive committee of the Palestine Liberation Organisation condemned Israel, the Ecuadorian president flailed U.S. Ambassador's interference in internal affairs, the Cuban news agency reported the DPRK Foreign Ministry's statement regarding the signing of the nuclear safeguards accord, a protocol of scientific and technological cooperation between Cuba and China was signed. The current Cambodian situation and the Soviet economic situation are conveyed in papers.

NODONG SINMUN introduces Vietnam stepping up socialist economic construction and Mauritania greeting the independence day.

In an article titled "Peace on Korean Peninsula and U.S. Nuclear Threat" the paper demands that the United States withdraw its troops and nuclear weapons from South Korea at an early date.

KCNA Reviews 29 Nov Pyongyang Press

SK2911061791 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0457 GMT 29 Nov 91

[Press review]

[Text] Pyongyang November 29 (kcna)—Papers here today carry messages of greetings sent by President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to Ramiz Alia, president of the Republic of Albania, on the occasion of the national day of the Albanian people and to Yasir 'Arafat, president of the state of Palestine and chairman of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, on "day of international solidarity with the Palestinian people".

Given in the press is an account of a scientific symposium on "On the Character and Tasks of the Trade Unions in Socialist Society" and "The Working Class Should Become the Pivotal Force in the Struggle for Modelling the Whole of Society on the Chuche Idea", classical works of the great leader President Kim Il-song.

NODONG SINMUN in an article calls upon the working class to become the pivotal force in the struggle to model the whole society on the chuche idea.

Conveyed in the daily is news that works of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il were reported in different countries.

A MINJU CHOSON article says Comrade Kim Chong-il has paid deep attention to the life of the mountain villagers and shown deep loving care for them.

Papers report that thanks of the Central Committee [C.C.] of the Workers' Party of Korea were conveyed to the members of young shock brigades in North Pyongan Province and helpers for their feats in the building of revolutionary sites.

NODONG SINMUN says Comrade Kim Chong-suk, an indomitable communist revolutionary fighter, brought up the members of the children's corps to be true revolutionaries and ardent patriots unfailingly loyal to the great leader during the anti-Japanese armed struggle.

Econews of the press includes reports that an overall reconditioning of the furnace No. 2 was completed to turn out the first molten iron at the Kim Chaek iron and steel complex, the first-stage building project of a fertilizer factory of the Sunchon vinalon complex has been completed in the main and meetings of year-end account settlement and income distribution continue in the countryside.

Given in NODONG SINMUN are accounts of the sixth plenary meeting of the C.C., the general federation of the unions of literature and arts and a meeting marking the 20th anniversary of the founding of the magazine "News of New Technologies".

The paper informs the readers that the members of our side's women's delegation who had participated in the second seminar on "Peace of Asia and the Role of Women" visited a museum and the Kyongbok Palace and ratification instruments of the treaty on the order of borderline were exchanged between the governments of the DPRK and the Soviet Union.

Under the title "Fascinating Stage Showing True Looks of Korean- Style Electronic Music and Happiness of Our People" the paper reviews the performances given by the Pochonbo light music troupe back from its Japan visit.

MINJU CHOSON under the fixed title "Let Us Become True Servants for the People Like Comrade Chong Chun-sil" carries the words of officials and working people who are determined to follow the example of twice Labour Heroine Chong Chun-sil, deputy to the Supreme People's Assembly and director of the Chonchon county commercial management office, Chagang Province, who is sincerely working for the people.

Papers carry an information on the four contacts of delegates to the fifth North-South high-level talks.

NODONG SINMUN comments on the moves of the South Korean authorities in obstructing in every way the activities of our side's women's delegation staying in Seoul after participating in the second seminar on "Peace of Asia and Role of Women".

South Korean news columns of the press include reports that more than 25,000 peasants held an anti-U.S., anti-"government" rally and a demonstration in Seoul and representatives of peasants in different parts held a meeting in Seoul and launched a one million signature campaign against rice import liberalisation.

It is reported in the press that anti-nuke peace organisations of Korea and New Zealand adopted a joint declaration for the denuclearisation and peace in Asia and the Pacific region and demanded the complete withdrawal of all the U.S. nuclear weapons and troops from South Korea.

Japanese people are strongly demanding an early normalisation of DPRK-Japan diplomatic relations, says the press.

According to NODONG SINMUN, the secretary general of the National Party for Democracy and Development of Benin stressed that if a true socialism is to be built, it is necessary to visit Korea.

It is reported in papers that the Pakistani president referred to the question of an independent development of energy sources, the president of the African National Congress of South Africa called for a policy of nationalisation and the PLO demanded an international protection of the Palestinians in the occupied areas. Papers review the situation of the Soviet Union and Yugoslavia.

Papers observe "day of international solidarity with the Palestinian people".

NODONG SINMUN carries an article on the changing situation in Bangladesh.

A MINJU CHOSON article says Bush is giving spurs to the reinforcement of nuclear weapons and their modernisation after he made an announcement for the elimination of tactical nuclear weapons.

KCNA Reviews 30 November Pyongyang Press

SK3011055491 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0436 GMT 30 Nov 91

[Press review]

[Text] Pyongyang November 30 (KCNA)—Papers here today carry a message of greetings President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea sent to Erskine Sandiford, prime minister of Barbados, on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the independence of Barbados.

Answers of the great leader President Kim Il-song to questions raised by the director of Iwanami Shoten, publishers of Japan was studied and disseminated in different countries, according to papers.

Given in the press is an account of a national meeting held to mark the 20th and 10th anniversaries of the publication of the classical works of President Kim Il-song "On the Character and Tasks of the Trade Unions in Socialist Society" and "The Working Class Should Become the Pivotal Force in the Struggle for Modelling the Whole of Society on the Chuche Idea". Conveyed in the press are voices of South Korean people ardently revering the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il.

A MINJU CHOSON article tells about the boundless love and care shown by President Kim Il-song to supply more fruits to the people.

NODONG SINMUN tells a story that Comrade Kim Chong-il wisely led the work to produce and supply many modern units of furniture to the people. The Kim Il-song University publishing house brought out a book "Revolutionary Slogans Written on Trees in the Period of the Anti- Japanese Revolutionary Struggle", reports the press.

NODONG SINMUN carries an article by Prof. and Dr. Yi Ung-pil titled "Brilliant Inheritance and Development of the Traditions of the Chuche-Oriented Publications by our Party" on the occasion of the 55th anniversary of the founding of "Samilwolgan", the organ of the association for the restoration of the fatherland, by President Kim Il-song during the period of anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle (December 1, 1936).

Econews of the press includes reports about innovations in the production of vinalon and timber.

Papers inform the readers that the North side's women's delegation which had participated in the second seminar on "Peace of Asia and the Role of Women" arrived in Pyongyang through Panmunjom, and members of the delegation talked to student Yim Su-kyong's mother in Seoul through the phone.

NODONG SINMUN comes out with an article exposing the criminal seamy side of the "Wartime Support Agreement" which was signed between the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets.

The daily carries news that the South Korean people protested against the U.S. imperialists' pressure for opening the market to agricultural and livestock products the treacherous act of the No Tae-u ruling group in bowing to it, and a commentary on it.

The daily reports that the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets do not cease from their war exercises against the North.

It carries a commentator's article "What Does Japan Seek in Nuclear Problem?" concerning the negative attitude of Japan toward the statement of the DPRK Ministry of Foreign Affairs on the question of signing the nuclear safeguards accord.

The Central Standing Committee of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan issued a statement in support of the statement of the DPRK Foreign Ministry, says the daily.

The daily reports that the Chinese PEOPLE'S DAILY carried a travelogue on Korea by a XINHUA delegation and conveys what foreigners who visited the construction site of Tongil street in Pyongyang said.

It introduces the achievements of the Cuban working people in socialist economic construction.

The international news of the paper includes reports that the general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Peru manifested firm support to the cause of socialism and the Iranian president supported the independent stand of Libya.

The daily introduces Barbados.

In a monthly review of the international situation it exposes that the imperialists are stubbornly resorting to the policy of strength to gratify their ambition for world domination.

KCNA Reviews 2 Dec NODONG SINMUN

SK0212060391 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0522 GMT 2 Dec 91

[Review of NODONG SINMUN]

[Text] Pyongyang December 2 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today prints a message of greetings of Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee [C.C.] of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, to Kaysone Phomvihan, chairman of the C.C., the Lao People's Revolutionary Party and president of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, on the occasion of the 16th anniversary of the founding of the Republic.

The daily conveys news that the great leader President Kim Il- song sent a wreath to the bier of the late Yo Pong-ku, director of the Secretariat of the C.C., the Democratic Front for the Reunification of the Fatherland and deputy to the Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK.

It reports that foreign party and state leaders and public circles are highly praising the immortal revolutionary feats performed by President Kim Il-song for the times and history.

President Kim Il-song's answers to questions raised by the director of the "Iwanami" Shoten, publishers of Japan, was reported by foreign news media, says the daily.

According to it, the news agency and radio of Tanzania reported news that the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il saw round the Kwangbok Department Store before its opening.

In India special issue of Bulletin No. 1 was published under the title "His Excellency Dear Kim Chong-il Is an Outstanding Leader of the Workers' Party and People of Korea Who Is Leading the Revolutionary Cause of Chuche to Brilliant Victory", reports the daily.

NODONG SINMUN carries an article telling that Comrade Kim Chong- il has led the officials energetically to fully display the revolutionary spirit in the proud struggle for the revolution and construction.

Under the blockletter headline "Demonstration of Inexhaustible Creativity of Korean Working Class and Might of Independent National Economy" the daily gives prominence to a photo-illustrated report that the project to make the equipment of the Hungnam fertilizer complex large-sized and modernized had been completed and its commissioning ceremony was held on the spot Sunday [1 December].

The econews of the paper includes a report about brisk efforts for carpeting humus soil on paddy fields in rural communities.

It informs the readers of the stay of U.S.-resident Korean Mun Son-myong, president of the World Peace Federation, in Pyongyang, who came here for a visit to his birth-place.

The Guinean president met the delegation for the management of the Kim Il-song Institute for Agricultural Science and the Nepalese prime minister met the Korean ambassador to his country, says the daily.

The Korean Documentary Film Studio released a documentary film "Voices of World People for Solidarity With Korea's Reunification", reports the paper.

The South Korean news columns of the daily include reports that the inaugural meeting of the National Alliance for Democracy and National Reunification was held in Seoul, over 5,000 students affiliated with the

National Council of Student Representatives held a meeting on the eve of the the formation of the afore-said alliance and an awarding ceremony of Yim Su-kyong literary prize before staging an all-night demonstration and an estimated 4,000 students in Seoul held a rally and vowed to defend the alliance and check import liberalization.

The U.S. imperialists committed an aerial espionage on the northern half of Korea, reports the daily.

A news analyst of the daily denounces the South Korean authorities for further intensifying their moves to keep the country divided indefinitely since South Korea entered the United Nations.

NODONG SINMUN conveys world public voices supporting the just stand of the DPRK Government concerning the question of a nuclear inspection and demanding that old man Yi In-mo be returned home.

It informs the readers that the Korean Reunification Supporting Group of Chitwan, Nepal was formed and the Suzuka Civic Society for Japan-Korea Friendship was inaugurated in Mie Prefecture, Japan.

The daily carries an article titled "Always With Ship 'Granma'" on the day of the revolutionary armed forces of Cuba.

The Kenyan president called for peace in the horn region of Africa and the Palestine Liberation Organization condemned Israel's suppression, says the daily.

The daily observes the 16th founding anniversary of the Lao People's Democratic Republic.

In an article the daily exposes the reactionary nature of the U.S. imperialists' adventurous "star wars program".

South Korea

Students Firebomb U.S. Cultural Center in Seoul

SK3011035491 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 0300 GMT 30 Nov 91

[Text] University students demonstrated and threw firebombs in front of the American Cultural Center. At around 1110 [0210 GMT] this morning, approximately 70 university students rushed to the American Cultural Center in Ulchi-ro, Seoul, demonstrated for five minutes in front of the center, and threw approximately 30 firebombs before fleeing.

The students had been waiting in various back alleys across the street from the Cultural Center and rushed over to it, chanting such slogans as: We oppose imports of U.S. rice, and withdraw the U.S. forces. They demonstrated with firebombs. The police confiscated approximately 40 firebombs and two steel pipes. They also arrested two students, including (Kang In-song), a freshman in the Public Relations Department on Ansan campus, Hanyang University, and are questioning them.

Premier Reaffirms Stance on North Nuclear Program

SK2811001291 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 28 Nov 91 p 3

[Text] Prime Minister Chong Won-sik yesterday reiterated the government's stance that it is determined to employ "all available ways and means" to stop North Korea from processing with it nuclear weapons development program.

In a "dialogue with citizens" in the southeastern city of Yongju, Kyongsangpuk-to, Chong said, "The government will resort to all available ways and means through consultations with our allies to force North Korea to stop its nuclear weapons project."

However, Chong did not elaborate on what steps might be taken against the North.

He said that North Korea, facing increasing world pressure, seems to be on the verge of making a serious decision on the nuclear issue.

"In particular, the government will call upon North Korea to sign the nuclear safeguards agreement with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and stop its nuclear development program, during forthcoming meetings of the IAEA Board of Governors," said Chong.

Delegation Leader to GATT Talks Appointed

SK3011082191 Seoul YONHAP in English 0738 GMT 30 Nov 91

[Text] Seoul, November 30 (OANA-YONHAP)—South Korea will send its delegation headed by Pak Su-kil, Korean Ambassador to Geneva, to the 47th general meeting of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) Dec. 3-5, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said Saturday.

Participants are expected to review and appraise the activities of the GATT for the year 1991 and to discuss an early conclusion of the Uruguay Round [UR] multilateral trade talks, the spokesman said.

Ambassador Pak will stress in his keynote speech that the strengthening of multilateral trade regime is important for a steady expansion of international trade.

The Korean delegation is also likely to emphasize that the UR talks must be concluded in a way that guarantees balanced benefits for all participating countries, according to the spokesman.

Chief Delegate to IAEA Meeting Announced

SK3011083391 Seoul YONHAP in English 0746 GMT 30 Nov 91

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 30 (OANA-YONHAP)—South Korea will send a delegation to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Board of Governors meeting Dec. 5-6 in Vienna and participate in talks for strengthening

IAEA special inspection measures on non-reported nuclear facilities, Foreign Ministry officials said Saturday.

South Korean Ambassador to Austria Yi Chang-chun will be the chief delegate.

The December meeting is likely to discuss the 320,000 U.S. dollar nuclear-related technology cooperation aid extended to North Korea as an IAEA member and possible halt to such aid, according to the officials.

South Korea receives approximately 500,000 dollars a year in cooperation aid from the IAEA.

North Korea's delay in signing the Nuclear Safeguards Accord may come up when the governors address inspection measures on Argentina and Brazil who are IAEA members but are yet to join the nuclear Non- Proliferation Treaty (NPT), they said.

North Korea joined the NPT in 1985 but is yet to sign the safeguards accord which is due within 18 months of joining the NPT.

The December session opens to hear a comprehensive report by IAEA Director-General Hans Blix on strengthening the agency's authority in inspecting nuclear-related facilities IAEA members omit in their reports.

IAEA adopted a resolution last September urging North Korea's early and unconditional signing of the Nuclear Safeguards Accord, and a report on North Korea's nuclear development is up for formal discussion at February's meeting.

SRV Trade Official on Furthering Cooperation

SK2711130091 Seoul HANGYORE SINMUN in Korean 27 Nov 91 p 5

[Interview with Doan Ngoc Bong, chairman of the Vietnamese Chamber of Commerce and Industry, by reporter Cha Ki-tae at Kimpo International Aiport on 26 November—first paragraph is newspaper's introduction]

[Text] At a time when economic exchange has been expanded between the ROK and Vietnam and when domestic companies have shown great interest in businesses in Vietnam, Doan Ngoc Bong, chairman of the Vietnamese Chamber of Commerce and Industry, arrived in the ROK at 0700 on 26 November aboard Asiana Airlines at the invitation of the Federation of Korean Industries. He expressed his views on economic exchange between the two countries at the airport.

[Cha Ki-tae] Why did you come to the ROK?

[Doan Ngoc Bong] I have come to the ROK to attend a seminar on investment in Vietnam sponsored by the Federation of Korean Industries and to explain to ROK businessmen Vietnam's progress in its open-door policy.

[Cha] What are the prospects for economic cooperation between the two countries?

[Bong] No formal relations have been established. However, private businessmen have actively promoted exchange. I believe that as a result of my visit, trade, investment, and other forms of economic relations will be promoted more rapidly.

[Cha] What sectors are promising for ROK investment?

[Bong] Though on a small scale, Samsung, Gold Star, Hyundai, Daewoo, Sunkyung, and other major ROK companies have begun to invest in Vietnam. They are carrying out various projects at present.

Infrastructure, electronics, automobiles, shipbuilding, and light industries are promising sectors. It would be good to combine the ROK's capital and technology with Vietnam's natural resources and labor. Vietnamese are considered to be dexterous.

The problem is that Vietnam's infrastructure, legal system, and investment protection mechanism are inadequate. Also, Vietnam has a shortage of skilled workers.

[Cha] Will the ROK and Vietnam establish diplomatic relations? If so, when?

[Bong] An atmosphere for that has been promoted, as shown in the ROK's UN admission. Now, this wholly depends on the ROK's attitude.

[Cha] When will it be possible for the United States to lift its export ban on Vietnam?

[Bong] The Vietnamese foreign minister and the U.S. undersecretary of state met last week to discuss this matter. I think the United States will lift it soon.

[Cha] Would you briefly explain the Do Muoi policy?

[Bong] We have carried out this policy since 1987 to overcome bureaucratic practices and to accelerate the deregulation of the economy. Since this policy began to be implemented, businesses have independently collected capital and cultivated foreign markets, and state enterprises have been turned into joint- stock corporations. As a result, we began to export rice, instead of importing it. The annual inflation rate has been curtailed from 400 percent in 1988 to the current 50 percent.

North Terrorism, Agent Training Methods Reported

SK0212080791 Seoul SEOUL SINMUN in Korean 30 Nov 91 p 5

[Article by YONHAP]

[Text] The fourth anniversary of the downing of Korean Airline [KAL] Flight 858, which took the lives of 115 innocent people, was 29 November. Recently, North Korea, which has been marked as a terrorist country, has refused to accept a nuclear inspection, creating considerable concern and apprehension throughout the world.

Recently, Gary Mulholland, senior researcher of the U.S. Kennedy Foundation, gave a horrible warning that

"North Korea's nuclear weapons will be smuggled onto the world black market. If they fall into terrorists' hands, nuclear bombs could blow up Washington and other major cities." With the explosion of the KAL as an occasion, we will specify the terrorist organizations and the real aspects of violent revolution in North Korea.

Organizations under the direct control of the Workers Party of Korea Central Committee, the nerve center of North Korea's governing institutions, include the Liaison Department, the United Front Department, the Operations Department, the External Intelligence and Investigation Department, and the Reconnaissance Department under the People's Armed Forces; these are known to be under Kim Chong-il's direct control. The Liaison Bureau has been in charge of organizing and maintaining a network of spies within South Korea. It has been learned that the United Front Department, which was reported to have played a main role in the Aungsan explosion, in addition to terrorist activities, has been in charge of the North-South dialogue, propaganda activities, and other psychological tactics.

The Operations Bureau has been in charge of training terrorists, kidnapping and assassinating important persons, and training and supporting foreign terrorists. The External Intelligence Bureau has been in charge of collecting foreign intelligence and carrying out terror. The People's Armed Forces Ministry and the Reconnaissance Bureau have more than 100,000 troops in all, including a special Eighth Army consisting of more than 40,000 troops, a light infantry brigade, and a Marine special army. They have been in charge of carrying out destructive operations.

Only those who have unshakable ideology, that is, who are firmly armed with the chuche idea, can be selected as terrorists. In addition, they should have a good home and a social and party-minded background. They should also have good surrounding circumstances and conditions. They should be strong and sharp in judging and analyzing political, military, and social issues. They should never betray their organizations, even at the risk of their lives. This is an essential factor in selecting terrorists.

The course of training terrorists is a short training course ranging from three months to six months and a long training course ranging from one year to two years. The training program is composed of tactics and theories for urban and rural guerrilla battles; hand-to-hand fighting; methods of using various bombs and weapons; sabotage; reconnaissance methods; map making; secret communications methods; means of securing a secret strategic position; ways to manipulate neighbors; methods to destroy public facilities; and ways of kidnapping and assassinating important persons.

North Korea's terrorists have not been heard from for a long time since the explosion of the KAL plane. However, before the downing of the KAL plane, terrorism against the South, guerrilla activities, overseas terrorism, and other operations had been frequent. Among North Korea's activities against the South, the incident of attacking Chongwadae (1968), the incident of infiltrating spies into Uljin and Samchok (1968); the incident of blowing up Aungsan Tomb in Burma (1983); and the incident of downing the KAL plane still remain vivid in our memory. Furthermore, terrorist and guerrilla activities, major and minor, were very frequent, reaching 629 incidents in 1967 and 564 incidents in 1968.

In foreign countries, five North Korean agents were expelled on charges of supporting antigovernment activities in Panama in 1982. One North Korean agent was detected in the course of carrying out brainwashing operations on Indian university students and expelled. In addition to this, in the 1980's, North Korea was detected in the course of supporting antigovernment activities in Venezuela, Tunisia, Burma, Sri Lanka, and Colombia.

Since 1969, North Korea has carried out guerrilla training for approximately 10,000 agents from 36 countries, including for the Palestine Liberation Organization. It also has been learned that North Korea dispatched special agents to 38 countries, including Nicaragua and El Salvador, to train terrorists there. North Korea, as a terror exporting country, has provided 22 antigovernment organizations, including the Argentine People's Liberation Army, with rifles, ammunitions, and hand grenades.

North Said To Replace Senior Diplomats in Moscow

SK3011021491 Seoul YONHAP in English 0144 GMT 30 Nov 91

[Text] Moscow, Nov. 30 (YONHAP)—North Korea, in an unprecedented move, has replaced almost all high-ranking diplomats stationed in the Soviet capital, a Western diplomatic source said Saturday.

The source, who is highly knowledgeable on North Korean affairs, said the replacements involving two ministers, several councilors and other diplomats, took place within one month. Ambassador Son Song-pil is still believed to be in Moscow, however.

The source said he did not know the precise reasons for their replacements but North Korean leaders probably thought that the diplomats should be recalled since they had witnessed the failed coup attempt and the tide of political reforms sweeping the Soviet Union.

The North Korean leaders have perhaps felt the need for assigning ideologically more trustworthy diplomats to Moscow, the source said.

The changes must have been ordered by Kim Chong-il himself, the source said, since they involved Minister Yi Tu-yol who had been appointed to the Moscow post by the Workers (Communist) Party and had been in the Soviet Union only about one year.

There are more than 100 officials including 60 diplomats working in the North Korean Embassy in Moscow, according to the Soviet Foreign Ministry.

USSR's Rogachev To Visit DPRK in December

SK0212110291 Seoul HANGUK ILBO in Korean 2 Dec 91 p 2

[Text] It was learned on 1 December that Igor Rogachev, Soviet vice foreign minister, will visit North Korea in mid-December to discuss North Korea's nuclear weapons development and other pending issues.

Vice Minister Rogachev will be the first high-ranking Soviet official to visit Pyongyang since the ROK and the Soviet Union established diplomatic relations in September of last year. His visit is noteworthy in view of the curtailed Soviet-North Korean relations and the international efforts to prevent North Korea from developing nuclear weapons.

An ROK Foreign Ministry official said: "Vice Minister Rogachev originally was scheduled to visit Pyongyang around late November. However, his visit has been rescheduled because of Shevardnadze's reappointment as foreign minister and other reshuffles in the Soviet Foreign Ministry." He added: "He will be the first Soviet official in charge of diplomatic affairs to visit North Korea since Shevardnadze, who was then foreign minister, visited North Korea in August of last year."

Referring to the background of Vice Minister Rogachev's visit to Pyongyang, he said: "I know that the Soviet Government has scheduled this visit because Soviet-North Korean relations have worsened drastically since the Soviet Union and the ROK established diplomatic relations and because North Korea's reliance on China is growing."

He added: "Therefore, discussions will take place on how to improve Soviet-North Korean relations, and the Soviet Government will strongly express its position on North Korea's nuclear weapons development."

He went on to say: "During the visit, the Soviet Union will stress that North Korea must fulfill its obligations stipulated in the International Atomic Energy Agency's treaty, and will express its worry about North Korea's nuclear weapons development." He added: "The Soviet Government will contact the ROK Embassy in Moscow before the Pyongyang visit."

Referring to the improvement in Soviet-North Korean relations, he said: "The two countries will try to find ways to improve bilateral relations, because it is necessary for them to do so. However, it will be difficult for them to promote relations as they had been."

North Korean Defects After Working in USSR

SK2811031291 Seoul YONHAP in English 0254 GMT 28 Nov 91

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 28 (OANA-YONHAP)—A 29-year-old North Korean working at a Siberian lumber camp has defected to South Korea after traveling for two months across the Soviet Union.

Chang Ki-hong, who escaped in late August, arrived in Seoul on Thursday, authorities here said.

Chang said he was caught watching a South Korean television program at a Soviet friend's home and questioned four times, and was afraid of being sent back to North Korea and punished.

Chang, who has a wife, two sons, parents and an older brother in North Korea, is the second North Korean lumberjack to defect to South Korea while in the Soviet Union. Yi Chong-ye, 48, came across Oct. 8.

North Korea is said to be sending large numbers of workers abroad to earn foreign currency.

Chang said he had watched South Korean television at his friend's house since January, but was caught and questioned repeatedly.

"I decided to defect when I found out that North Korea is the most closed and backward society even among socialist countries," Chang said upon arrival at Kimpo Airport.

Liaison Officials Meet To Discuss Next Talks

SK0212092091 Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean 2 Dec 91 p 2

[Text] Liaison officials met on the afternoon of 2 December at Tongilgak on the North's side of Panmunjom to discuss the itinerary of the North side's delegation to the fifth North-South high-level talks, scheduled to be held in Seoul 10-13 December.

Kim Yong-hwan, the South side's chief liaison official, and Choe Pong-chun, the North side's chief liaison official, attended today's contact. The two sides discussed the North delegation's passage through Panmunjom and Seoul-Pyongyang communications lines to be made available during the Seoul talks.

During this contact, the South proposed that the North side's delegation stay at Sheraton Walker Hill Hotel.

[Seoul YONHAP in English at 0903 GMT on 2 December in a similar report adds: "It was agreed to meet again Thursday afternoon to decide the schedule and exchange a list of North Korean delegates and a written security guarantee."]

Pannational Coalition Group Declares Inauguration

SK0112105091 Seoul YONHAP in English 1024 GMT 1 Dec 91

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 1 (YONHAP)—The Pan-National Coalition for Democracy and Reunification declared its inauguration at the representatives' meeting with some 4,000 dissidents, activist students, unionists and farmers attending late Sunday.

The activation ceremony was supposed to be held at Yonsei University at Shinchon Western Seoul, but it was held separately far later than scheduled at Konguk University and Yonsei because the police barred aspirant joiners from coming into the original assembly place.

Participants were determined to pursue across-the-board democratic reforms and exclude the external interferences to obtain national autonomy.

Students from universities other than in Seoul inaugurated local chapters of the coalition in ceremonies Saturday and then headed for Yonsei for the pre-rally ceremony.

The coalition is composed of 13 sectional organizations and eight local chapters including National Alliance for Democratic Movement, National Peasants League, National Teachers Union and National Council of Student Representatives.

Thousands of collegians held a demonstration throwing firebombs sporadically toward the combat police at Yonsei prior to the inauguration ceremony. The police arrested about 350 students trying to enter the assembly sites. No serious injuries were reported.

Kye Hon-che and Paek Ki-wan who are both prominent dissident leaders couldn't attend the meeting because they were under house arrest temporarily.

Military Reshuffle Aimed at Promoting Stability

SK0112123191 Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean 30 Nov 91 p 3

[Editorial: "We Expect a 'Stable Military'"]

[Text] President No Tae-u reshuffled the military leadership on 29 November. We can say that he wanted to convey the message of military stability in this military reshuffle. This reshuffle is understandable in this sense.

What is important politically and socially at a time of power transfer is that the military must not be shaken. It is not desirable if unfounded rumors that the military prefers some specific politicians over others [for the presidency] or that the military is dissatisfied with various unstable phenomena make the rounds at such a time of power transfer. Rather, the military must play the role of steadily, silently helping maintain political stability during a transitional period. This is possible when a capable leadership that enjoys public confidence controls the military and prevents it from interfering in political affairs.

We would like to say that the reshuffle is aimed mainly at preventing such a derangement. This is shown by the fact that even before his term expires, Army Chief of Staff Yi Chin-sam, who had been said to be not on good terms with Defense Minister Yi Chong-ku, was replaced by General Kim Chin-yong, who relatively speaking enjoys confidence and popularity in the military. It is also shown by the fact that General Kim was appointed as Army chief of staff, instead of those generals who, considering President No's personal relations with or preferences for them, had been talked about for the job.

Some military circles had expressed dissatisfaction over President No's military reshuffles, stating that he had appointed his own confidants to all the important posts. New Army Chief of Staff Kim must have enjoyed President No Tae-u's confidence because he, too, was one of the leaders of the 12 December [1979] coup. However, he is in no way No Tae-u's "confidant." Therefore, considering such dissatisfaction, President No may have appointed him to the job even though he was in an unfavorable position compared to his competitors.

President No also appointed a general from the Korean Military Academy 17th class, not a general from the 16th class, to the Army chief of staff post to replace a general from the 15th class, thus contributing to resolving the situation in which too many generals are waiting to be promoted. This will contribute to soothing the internal dissatisfaction in the military. So, we can say that President No made this reshuffle with discretion in the military in mind.

President No made this reshuffle with not only stability in the military but also the post-No Tae-u era in mind.

Three of the generals who were appointed to the five major posts were members of the leadership group in the 12 December coup. In particular, during the early days of the Sixth Republic, new Chief of Staff Kim openly criticized the decision to make former President Chon Tu-hwan testify at the hearings on the Fifth Republic, and, as a result, was even called a "political soldier." In this sense, as long as they remain in their posts which have terms of two years, these generals will serve as President No's defenders to a great extent when he leaves office.

Despite the positive aspects of this reshuffle, President No will not be able to free himself from the criticism that a preference was given to those from the Yongnam region [Taegu, Pusan, and North and South Kyongsang Provinces]. Out of the five generals, three, including the Army chief of staff, come from the Yongnam region. This means that people from the Yongnam region inclusive of Defense Minister Yi, who belongs to the TK [Taegu-North Kyongsang Province] faction, have virtually taken control of the military leadership. An absolute majority of expectant four-star generals comes from the Yongnam region, and a majority of three-star generals from the Honam region [Kwangju and North and South Cholla Provinces] have already been left out. All this shows the overwhelming preference for a specific region in appointing officials to government offices, including the military.

Priority was given to stability and discretion in this military reshuffle, as well as preventing the military from interfering in political affairs. The problem is how the new military leadership will carry out this task.

* New National Defense Doctrine Analyzed

* Flexible Response

922C0022A Seoul CHUNGANG ILBO in Korean 24 Sep 91 p 5

[Article by Kim Chun-pom: "Purposes of Military Reorganization Plan"]

[Text] The "new national defense strategy" being prepared by the Defense Ministry is of great significance in that it transcends the single-track strategy maintained until now by our forces with the ROK-U.S. joint defense system at its center. It is reorientated toward a comprehensive multi-track strategy looking toward a new strategic condition in the post-reunification period.

From a narrower perspective, the modification of the defense strategy represents an effort to positively cope with the changing security environment, but from a broader perspective, reflects, on the one hand, the need for realigning the interests of the United States, Japan, China, and the Soviet Union in the event that Korea is reunified, and, on the other hand, the building of a "new order" in which a unified Korea will take its place.

This is because it is anticipated that the emergence of a unified Korea will necessarily bring about changes in the alliance arrangements with its neighbors, along with a restructuring of the ROK forces.

The reorganization plan is divided into three stages, with the period ending in 1995 classified as the short term, the period from 1996 through the year 2000 as the midterm, and the ensuing period as the long term.

This division is based on the judgment that the state of confrontation between North and South Korea will remain unchanged until 1995. But, beginning in 1996, a substantive mode of peaceful coexistent, such as disarmament, will be possible.

The Defense Ministry anticipates that the reunification of Korea will be realized in the year 2000 or at some time thereafter.

The Defense Ministry regards the year 1995 as a turning point in the security of the Korean peninsula for the following reason: next April Kim Il-song will be 80 years old, and by 1995 the first generation of the revolution will recede from the scene and new pragmatic technocrats will take their place. Thus, the technocrats would have no alternative but to choose realistic peaceful coexistence instead of a reckless arms race. A power struggle is anticipated in the transitional period, however, posing an ever existing security threat to the Korean peninsula.

The Defense Ministry does not rule out the possibility of reaching the stage of peaceful reunification without going through the stage of peaceful coexistence. But, as things stand now, it is more practicable to assume the aforementioned three stages. The Defense Ministry's new defense strategy may be epitomized as a so-called "doctrine of reflexive deterrence" based on the awareness of the potential threats from neighboring countries.

This strategy, which may also be called a "porcupine strategy," is aimed at maintaining a sufficient level of military strength to cope with any potential threat from China, the Soviet Union, and Japan by joining forces with the United States. For it will be impossible for a unified Korea to deal with these potential adversaries single-handedly.

To this end, the Defense Ministry will search for ways to establish a new military relationship with the United States, namely, a relationship of equal partnership, while continuing to maintain a cooperative military relationship with it.

The new defense strategy has these new key features: reduction in the ground forces and a buildup of sea and air power, the conversion of the whole army into a science-oriented mobile force, and the readjustment of forces deployment and a personnel reorganization.

This strategy may be interpreted in essence as being aimed at equipping the armed forces with high-tech military gear and improving the overall quality of the military while scaling down its size.

It goes without saying that this goal will require far greater military spending than the present budget allows. According to a Defense Ministry source, this additional outlay should be appropriated as the necessary cost of reunifying the country. This strategy in the making is based on a somewhat simplistic analysis of the strategic situation and other factors, but if the year marking a turning point—1996 in the present case—is a variable, then the new strategy may be seen as an epochal security blueprint looking toward the post-unification period.

* Peace Based on Strength

922C0022B Seoul HANGYORE SINMUN in Korean 24 Sep 91 p 3

[Article by reporter Yi Pyong-ho: "An Analysis of the Defense Ministry's New National Defense Strategy"]

[Text] The "new national defense strategy" currently being formulated by the Defense Ministry will provide the basic vision synthesizing the series of recent measures such as the military reorganization plan, the abolition of the Defense Corps, the shortening of the active duty period, and the military personnel reorganization plan, and as such it will give a glimpse of the future of the ROK Armed Forces.

Since its inception, the ROK Army has constantly maintained the single-track strategy of opposing the military threat of North Korea backed up by the Soviet Union and China with a ROK-U.S. joint defense system in the context of the cold war stricture. But, first of all, the new defense strategy is significant in that it separates the pre-unification period from the post-unification period, it newly defines the potential and present enemies, and it shifts the basic drift of our defense policy and strategy by adopting a stage-by-stage and double-track approach.

This radical shift in the military strategy is primarily designed to cope with the change in the security environment. But, it is bound to bring about a subtle and sensitive change in the alliance, as well as structural and functional reforms in the military, in the future.

In their analysis of the security environment, Defense Ministry officials are cautious to the extent that they are pessimistic in their short-term view, but in the long-term, they are rather optimistic.

In his lecture at the Defense College last month, Defense Minister Yi Chong-ku asserted that "with the collapse of the cold war structure, a peaceful atmosphere has spread over the Korean peninsula, but the view that the country will be reunified soon is nothing but a rosy fantasy." He predicted that "if we safely pass the critical year of 1993, our midterm and long-term prospects will be bright, however."

His reasoning is that "there can be no gambling as far as security is concerned, and as long as even a one percent chance of war remains, the military should be ready for this possibility." Defense Ministry officials call for "peace and reunification based on strength," pointing out that the cold war ended, not during the reign of the Carter administration, which pursued an appeasement policy toward the Soviet Union, but in the reign of the Reagan administration, which pursued a hard line."

In their opinion, "it was not until early this year that North Korea began to ponder that it may be impossible to unify the country under communism, and began to work out a strategy for the preservation of its system."

The new defense strategy, which is based on this perception, consists of three parts, namely, policy, strategy, and the structure of war potential. First, the main drift of defense policy will be determined on the basis of a national consensus; then, a corresponding military strategy will be conceived; and then on this basis, a professional and specific structure of war power will be determined.

The reason the Defense Ministry is mapping out a new defense strategy at a time when the prospects for reunification are not so clear, is that it takes time to build a "new military force." The Defense Ministry estimates that it will take 15 to 20 years to consolidate the national defense in the area of manpower, and five to 10 years in the area of installations.

In addition, the Defense Ministry regards this year, in which the cold war atmosphere still lingers on the Korean peninsula despite the rapidly changing international situation, as the critical year for formulating a mid- and long-term military policy and strategy.

What constitutes the core of the new defense strategy is the doctrine of "reflexive deterrence" based on the awareness of the potential threat of neighboring countries. Assuming that a reunified Korea will be unable to deal with Japan, China, and the Soviet Union single-handedly, this strategy, which may be called a "porcupine strategy," is aimed at maintaining a sufficient level of military strength to cope with any direct military threat from these neighboring countries by joining forces with the United States, so that they may not take our defense lightly.

To this end, ROK-U.S. military cooperation on the strategic level will be constantly maintained, but this cooperation will be radically different in character from the present ROK-U.S. joint defense structure.

A private military expert explained this difference in these words: "at present, we provide bases to U.S. forces free of charge, but from the year 2000 on, we will be in a position to collect rentals for U.S. bases."

New military construction under the new defense strategy will include: a reduction in the ground forces and a reinforcement of sea and air power, the conversion of the whole army into a science-oriented mobile force, and a readjustment of forces deployment and a change in command structure. In essence, the new strategy is aimed at reducing the number of manpower but improving the military strength by arming the military with high-tech equipment.

It will cost more to build a high-tech military force. North Korea has pursued a military buildup by using its military technology of 1960's whereas South Korea has been using its military technology of 1970's to build up its forces. The new strategy aims to build a completely new generation of military strength with the year 2000 as the point of departure, when the ROK fighter aircraft project will be completed.

The new defense strategy, which is fundamental and epochal in character, is fraught with many problems which need solving. First of all, it oversimplifies the complex realities in assessing the security environment and analyzing the prospects for reunification. The new strategy presumes as its major premise South Korea-led reunification based upon the collapse of the system in North Korea or a passive coexistence with North Korea.

and its hidden goal is the de facto dissolution of the North Korean Army. Needless to say, there is no guarantee for achieving reunification through North-South agreement. In the case of German reunification, the East German Army was disbanded and integrated into the West German Army. But in our case, a different scenario should also be studied in depth.

It is further pointed out that the Armed Forces of a unified Korea should not merely stop at being a unified army with strategic maneuverability, but be the Armed Forces with five branches by building an independent strategic force and an independent electronic fighting force in addition to the regular ground, sea, and air forces.

In this connection, some argue with a measure of persuasiveness that the numerical strength of all the Armed Forces should be scaled down to the level of somewhere between 400,000 and 500,000 and that of the Navy and the Air Force should be the level of 100,000 each. In addition, there is also the argument that we should not stop at keeping the United States as our sole ally, but develop multilateral military relationships by establishing cooperative relations with the Soviet Union for the transfer of military technology, while promoting exchanges with Japan to a certain extent. In the final analysis, any shift in the military policy and strategy should be based on a national consensus. The building of a new military strength also is possible only through the burden of the people in the form of budgetary appropriations. For this reason, all the aforementioned problems should be discussed fully in the open to insure "defense polemics" in the wholesome sense of the words.

* Foreign Businesses Continue Heavy Investment

922C0017A Seoul CHUNGANG ILBO in Korea
24 Sep 91 p 11

[Article by reporter Kim Il: "With the Opening of the South Korean Market, Multinational Firms Are Vying To Land in Korea"]

[Text] The ROK market is flinging its door open to the outside world.

Keeping in step with the international trend toward the opening and liberalization of markets, our government has made a series of market opening measures since early this year. These measures include a switch from the licensing to the notification requirements for foreign investors in the manufacturing sector as long as their share of the capital is less than 50 percent, and the opening of the retail market sectors to foreign firms. Now that the gate to the market has been unbarred through these measures, the range of activity for multinational corporations in the ROK market has widened accordingly.

Last July, the Dutch SHV Holdings Co., the world's largest general wholesale outlet, and a subsidiary of Saudi Arabian ARAMCO petroleum company obtained approval for a huge number of investments in South Korea, accelerating the entry of foreign businesses into our country.

Du Pont and Shell, among other multinational corporations have shown their aggressive management styles by moving into diverse business sectors in South Korea.

In the past, some multinational corporations which had a hand in labor-intensive industries had to leave Korea because their business operations deteriorated. But Du Pont is interested in the high growth rate in our country.

Despite the multitude of hindrances in economic development, the ROK has many attractions for foreign investors, such as its ever growing consumer market and well trained manpower. For this reason, multinational corporations are expected to engage in a protracted fight against one another to be first to secure a stronghold in Korea.

This competition stems from the worldwide strategy of multinational cooperations which consider the Asia-Pacific region as the main target of concentrated assaults because, in their judgment, there is no more room in the European and U.S. markets to squeeze in.

What are the operational strategies that the major multinational corporations currently operating in our country are pursuing in order to secure a foothold here?

Below, the reporter will first examine the overall picture of multinational corporations currently operating in Korea and then analyze the unique management and market infiltration strategies, personnel management methods, and visions of business diversification of the most active multinational corporations operating in our country, including IBM.

This is the 30th year since multinational corporations began to advance into our country in 1962. According to the Ministry of Finance [MOF], by the end of August, the number of investments by foreigners stood at 2,243, totalling $7.79 billion. Japanese and U.S. investors account for 70 percent of the total amount of foreign investments, with the former accounting for 44.2 percent and the latter 26 percent. European firms account for 24 percent of the total, with Danish firms accounting for 9.7 percent, German firms 4.2 percent, and Swiss firms 38 percent.

So-called multinationals with subsidiaries in a number of different countries account for a far greater percentage of these 2,000 or more foreign firms than those firms which invest in only one or two foreign countries.

By industry, of the total foreign investment, the manufacturing sector accounts for 64 percent, the service sector 35 percent, and agriculture 0.4 percent. The number of people employed by the foreign firms exceeds 320,000, according to a Labor Ministry survey. The amount of investments and remittances by foreign firms has been increasing each year, with the amount of dividends remitted to their home countries this year expected to increase to $180 million from $170 million in 1990.

According to the MOF, foreign investment in the manufacturing sector remains in the doldrums whereas investments in the financial and trade sectors have been on the rise. In particular, the entry of large foreign distributors is accelerating, causing uneasiness among the domestic sales outlets.

Our government has offered various incentives in order to induce multinational corporations to move in, on the grounds that their entry means the introduction of foreign capital without the encumbrance of foreign debts. Their presence has been a mixed blessing.

They have a positive side: transfer of technology and transmission of managerial techniques, expansion of export, and creation of jobs. On the other hand, they also have a negative side: exorbitant profits derived from special privileges, introduction of pollution-ridden industries, bankruptcy of domestic firms with weak competitiveness, onslaught of dumping, and social problems arising from a sudden pullout.

IBM

"Collection of Melancholy Songs on the Korean Peninsula," "Complete Collection of Pansori," "Pansori Chyokpyokka," and "Pansori Hongboka." These are the records of Korean traditional music which IBM voluntarily released in an effort to contribute to the Korean society in its capacity as a "corporate citizen." IBM is a typical U.S.-based multinational corporation operating in 132 countries.

In addition, in an effort to neutralize its negative image as a foreign firm, IBM carries out various projects, such as offering scholarships to college students majoring in computer science, providing support to the handicapped, training 39 Korean scientists in its research institute in the United States, and hosting a computer science seminar.

IBM Korea landed on the Korean shore 24 years ago. In March IBM Korea installed O Chang-kyu (47), who has worked for IBM for the past 23 years, as its president. This is an indication that IBM intends to strike its roots in Korean soil. The replacement of its American staff with Korean nationals has steadily progressed, with foreign nationals numbering only three of its total 1,500 employees throughout the country.

Speaking of personnel management, IBM keeps its wage system a secret, with individual promotions granted on a merit basis, in accordance with evaluations conducted by the immediate supervisor. The company has a welfare system for its employees, including stock sharing, and its operating guide prohibits its employees from receiving money and other forms of gift.

Last year IBM's volume of gross sales exceeded 500 billion won, and its net profit was more than 23.1 billion won. Its business grew 2.7 times in a year, and the growth rate was so high that it even drew the attention of our tax authorities. With emphasis on software development as a main project in the future, the company set up a software research center in July. It plans to develop software jointly with our domestic firms for export purposes.

Du Pont

On 22 October last year a ground-breaking ceremony was held for Du Pont Korea's special polyester plant in Yongynyong-tong, Ulsan. What took place in the ceremony was quite odd on this kind of occasion for a foreign firm. Buddy Hall [name as published], plant manager, and other executive officers, conducted the ritual in the traditional Korean style, saying a prayer for the safety of the project before the table on which a pig head was placed as an offering to spirits.

This plant is the fourth subsidiary of Du Pont Korea. Since Du Pont first landed in Korea in 1977, it has engaged in the production and sale of high-tech materials in the chemical, fiber, and electronics fields. Du Pont, like IBM, is interested in localization, and only 15 are foreign nationals out of the total 450 employees of its subsidiaries.

Beginning in 1986, Du Pont pushed ahead with a plan to build a titanium dioxide (white paint) plant in Onsan, South Kyongsang Province, but the projected plant was viewed by the local residents as a pollution generating one. For this reason, Du Point has been trying to change its image by concentrating on "green marketing" in order to present itself as an enterprise committed to environmental protection.

Du Pont, with its main office in the United States, has been distributing in Korea various speeches by its president Edgar Woolard [as published] stressing that "enterprises with technological potential should take the lead in environmental protection," as well as pamphlets describing the efforts of over 200 Du Pont-affiliated plants in 39 different countries to promote environmental protection and safety. Du Pont Korea is using a logo made up of signs of air, water, and soil symbolizing environmental protection. It also drew attention when in observance of Earth Day on 22 April, it distributed cloth-woven market baskets as part of the public campaign to refrain from excessive consumption.

Du Pont Korea sent a group of Onsan village representatives who opposed the titanium dioxide plant construction project to the Du Pont U.S. plant in March with a view to convincing them that no pollution from the titanium dioxide manufacturing process affects the residents. As a result of these public relations campaigns, the company is scheduled to start the construction project toward the end of this year, after the passage of five years since it first conceived the project.

Shell Oil

Royal Dutch Shell, a Netherlands-UK joint firm, which emerged as the world's largest oil major superceding the American Exxon last year, has invested in four firms in Korea, namely, Shell Pacific, Shell Korea, Shell Kumho, and Shell Aekyong. Shell, which has 2,000 or more subsidiaries operating in 104 countries throughout the world, is pursuing a strategy aimed at winning trust from the people in each country it is operating, under the managerial philosophy of localization and decentralization. This also applies to its four subsidiaries in South Korea.

Cage Linsay [name as published], Dutch president of the main subsidiary Shell Pacific, said: "We are a foreign firm, but we are trying to present ourselves as a domestic firm. Inasmuch as Korean employees know about the domestic market situation better than anyone else, we have delegated powers to them so that they can make their own operational decisions."

Of 600 or more employees of the Shell subsidiaries in Korea, only seven are foreign nationals.

Mitsubishi

Last year Mitsubishi Corporation's Seoul branch ranked first among other Japanese trading firms in the amounts of exports and imports handled, with its trade volume totalling $2.8 billion. This figure represents a drastic increase from the $1 billion registered 10 years ago. However, the imports and exports made through this branch show a three to one ratio, representing a wide trade gap.

Banking on the advantage of its ability to collect information instantly on trading trends for various commodities through its worldwide branch network, Mitsubishi Corporation is pursuing the market strategy of providing useful information to its customers.

Mitsubishi, like others, has been exerting efforts to localize its operation. Two years ago the company appointed Choe Mun-ho, a Korean resident in Japan, as manager of its branch in Korea for the first time. Originally, all the department chiefs were Japanese, but two of the 10 departments are now headed by Koreans. The branch assigns a senior employee to each newcomer as a mentor, who teaches everything to the new employee, ranging from the drinking manner in entertaining a guest to the methods of preparing business documents.

When the export market is completely open to Japanese firms beginning early next year, Mitsubishi Corporation plans to produce machine and auto parts in cooperation with small and medium local Korean firms, under its quality control and quality assurances, and export them overseas.

City Bank

This American bank is occasionally asked by its customers the question, "why does City Bank send out questionnaires to the customers so often?" Unlike other foreign banks, it is an established policy of City Bank to conduct a survey on the opinions of its customers each time a problem crops up, such as the problem of promoting a new financial product, in order to reflect the outcome in its operation.

This bank, unlike ordinary banks which have no particular marketing strategy for their financial products, attaches importance to marketing and has a marketing headquarters to lead the rest of its operation. It is the only foreign bank doing business in the consumer credit field.

In particular, the bank is outstripping its competitors by offering a 24-hour deposit and withdrawal service all the year round as well as a super trust which bears a high interest rate. Of its nine branch chiefs, three are women to attract female customers. It pays attention to cultural activities and sponsors various events, such as children's drawing contests and open-door art performances. The balance of consumer deposits with City Bank is expected to reach 425 billion won this year, or an increase of 43 percent over last year.

Burma

Saw Maung on 'Dangers' Posed by 'Imperialists'

BK0112090491 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 0430 GMT 1 Dec 91

[Message to the nation from Senior General Saw Maung, chairman of the State Law and Order Restoration Council of the Union of Myanmar, on the occasion of the 71st anniversary of the National Day on 1 December 1991]

[Text] Dear people of all national races:

Today is the 71st anniversary of the National Day. Since the National Day has a very significant and profound impact on the history of Myanmar [Burma], I take this opportunity to send my greetings to all of you with this message.

The National Day should remain unforgotten since it is an important landmark in the history of the struggle for the independence of Myanmar.

The British imperialists captured Lower Myanmar on 20 December 1852, annexed Upper Myanmar on 1 January 1886, and turned the whole Myanmar country into a colonial state and enslaved the entire people.

From that time onwards, the British imperialists reaped profits by looting, seizing, and exploiting all the natural resources, such as rice, teak, and petroleum, in the country. While taking away countless amount of our precious natural resources, such as teak, timber, minerals, and gems, they also unjustly imprisoned and tortured the people.

Never reconciling to the life of being slaves, the Myanmar people fought the British imperialists all over the whole country through various means. On 1 December 1920, the colonial government promulgated the Rangoon University Act which was not only designed to entrench the colonial education system but also to prolong their enslavement of Myanmar. This being the case, the students of the then Rangoon College launched the boycott movement at the Shwedagon Pagoda on 5 December 1920 in protest against the Rangoon University Act.

That boycott while attacking the colonial education system also fought the political restrictions and suppressions and the economic exploitations by the British imperialists as well as their one-sided oppressive measures under the bureaucratic administrative machinery. Of all the anti-imperialist and national liberation struggles in Myanmar history, the national day boycott became the symbol of the greatest tradition because it was the first open political challenge by the Myanmar people against the British imperialists.

The 1920 boycott awakened the patriotic and nationalistic spirit of the entire Myanmar people and instilled in their minds the will and desire to make personal sacrifice for the country. Moveover, it also gave birth to the spirit of national soldarity making the people aware that only through national unity will they be able to win victory over the British imperialists.

Hence, the 1920 boycott not only represented an alert call for the independence struggle, it also time and again helped bring into being revolutionary forces that fought for independence. The boycott movement has thus been referred to as the movement that set Burma on the path leading toward independence.

Today, the imperialists are using neo-imperialist methods and resorting to forceful means to reestablish their domination of our country. They make use of their henchmen and minions at home to break the national unity, cause disunity within the Defense Services, and to destroy the nation. Therefore, reminding themselves of the true and profound meaning of National Day, the people of all the national races must show a spirit of total patriotism and resist the dangers posed by imperialists.

I take this opportunity to greet and call on all the people of all national races to hold in esteem our three main causes—nondisintegration of the union, nondisintegration of national solidarity, and perpetuity of sovereignty—and, under the leadership of the State Law and Order Restoration Council, to repulse the dangers posed by the imperialists.

Thai Agriculture Minister Arrives on Visit

BK2811135491 Rangoon Burma Television Network in Burmese 1330 GMT 28 Nov 91

[Text] At the invitation of Lieutenant General Chit Swe, minister of agriculture and forests and livestock breeding and fisheries of the Union of Myanmar [Burma], Mr. Anat Aphaphirom, minister of agriculture and cooperatives of Thailand, Deputy Minister Dr. At Taolanon, and a delegation flew in to Yangon [Rangoon] this afternoon.

The minister and his entourage were welcomed at the airport by Lieutenant General Chit Swe and heads of departments from the Ministry of Agriculture and Forests, the Ministry of Livestock Breeding and Fisheries, and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; and Mr. Suraphong Posayanon, Thai ambassador to Myanmar, and staff members of the Thai Embassy.

In the evening, the Thai minister of agriculture and cooperatives and his entourage, accompanied by the Thai ambassador, called on Lt. Gen. Chit Swe at the reception hall of the Myanmar Agriculture Enterprise on Natmauk Road.

Also present on the occasion were departmental heads from the Ministries of Agriculture and Forests and Livestock Breeding and Fisheries.

Later that evening, Lt. Gen. Chit Swe held a banquet at the People's Park Restaurant for the visiting Thai minister and his entourage.

Received by General Than Shwe

BK2911143691 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 1330 GMT 29 Nov 91

[Text] General Than Shwe, deputy chairman of the State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC] of the Union of Myanmar [Burma], received a Thai delegation led by Dr. Anat Aphaphirom, minister of agriculture and cooperatives, at 0930 today at the Dagon House of the Ministry of Defense.

Present with Gen. Than Shwe at the meeting were Lieutenant General Chit Swe, member of SLORC and minister for agriculture and forests and livestock breeding and fisheries; Major General Tin U, secretary-2 of the SLORC; U Ohn Gyaw, foreign minister; and Thura U Aung Htet, director general of protocol of the Foreign Ministry.

Present with the Thai delegation at the meeting was Mr. Suraphong Posayanon, Thai Ambassador to Myanmar.

Meets Agriculture, Forestry Minister

BK2911151191 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 1330 GMT 29 Nov 91

[Text] A Myanmar [Burmese] team led by Lieutenant General Chit Swe, minister for agriculture and forests and for livestock breeding and fisheries, and a Thai delegation led by Dr. Anat Aphaphirom, minister of agriculture and cooperatives held talks at the conference hall of the Myanmar Agricultural Enterprise at Natmauk Road.

The talks were attended by directors general and managing directors from the departments under the Ministry of Agriculture and Forests and the Ministry of Livestock Breeding and Fisheries. Minister Lt. Gen. Chit Swe delivered the welcoming speech. Next, Thai Minister Dr. Anat Aphaphirom and Deputy Minister Dr. At Taolanon delivered speeches expressing their appreciation.

This was followed by U Ye Myint, deputy director general of the Forestry Department, who explained Myanmar cultivation and production and U Win Htin, director general of the Fisheries Department who explained about the fisheries sector of the country. The Thai delegation participated in the discussions.

The two teams discussed matters on bilateral friendship and cooperation, agriculture, forestry, and livestock breeding.

The Thai delegation visited the Shwedagon Pagoda at 0800 this morning. In the afternoon, U Ye Myint, director of the Forestry Department, hosted a luncheon for the delegation at Dekhina Hall of the Karaweik Restaurant. In the evening, Thai Agriculture Minister Dr. Anat Aphaphirom hosted a return banquet.

Departs Rangoon 30 Nov

BK3011142491 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 1330 GMT 30 Nov 91

[Excerpts] A Thai delegation led by Dr. Anat Aphaphirom, minister of agriculture and cooperatives, which is visiting Myanmar [Burma] at the invitation of Lieutenant General Chit Swe, minister for agriculture and forests and for livestock breeding and fisheries, left Yangon [Rangoon] today at 0700 to visit Pegu. [passage omitted]

The Thai delegation led by Dr. Anat Aphaphirom, minister of agriculture and cooperatives, and Dr. At Taolanon, deputy minister left Yangon Airport at 1700 by air. The Thai delegation was seen off at the airport by Minister Lt. Gen. Chit Swe and departmental heads from the Ministry of Agriculture and Forests and the Ministry of Livestock Breeding and Fisheries and the Foreign Ministry, Thai Ambassador Mr. Suraphong Posayanon and embassy staff.

Official Claims Rice Sufficiency Despite Floods

BK2911105991 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 1330 GMT 28 Nov 91

[Excerpts] Major General Tin U, secretary-2 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council, attended a coordination meeting on paddy purchasing, transportation, milling, storage, and distribution for 1991-1992 held in the meeting hall of the Trade Ministry at 1600 this evening. The meeting was also attended by Major General Myo Nyunt, chairman of Yangon [Rangoon] Division Law and Order Restoration Council; Brigadier General Abel, minister for planning and finance and for trade; Brigadier General Maung Maung, chairman of the supervisory committee for commodity prices reduction and control committee; directors general and managing directors of organizations under the Trade Ministry; responsible personnel from the Ministry of Transport and Communication, the Ministry of Energy, and the Ministry of cooperatives; representatives from States and Divisions; and responsible personnel from Joint Venture Corporation No.2 [JVC-2].

In his opening speech Maj. Gen. Tin U said this meeting was convened to coordinate this year's paddy season programs of the Trade Minstry, the Cooperatives Ministry, and the JVC-2, for purchasing, transportation, storage, milling, and distribution of paddy. He said the 1992-93 fiscal year will be designated as the Year of the Economy. He then explained some facts about the Year of the Economy program which indicated that agricultural crops, including paddy, could be cultivated according to their seasons, on a short-term basis, which would reap benefits quickly. Since the economy of the country is dependent on development in the agriculture sector, special efforts must be made for production development in that sector. We must also strive to achieve self-sufficiency in paddy and rice production with intent to export the surplus.

In accordance with these guidelines, it is equally important for farmers in the agricultural sector to boost production, and for organizations involved in paddy purchasing, transportation, storage, milling, and distribution activities to give reasonable prices to farmers in purchasing paddy and to perform those activities systematically without any wastage.

Continuing, the general said if the yearly average paddy production is analyzed, it could be seen that paddy is cultivated on more than 12 million acres annually and the average successful acreage is about 11.5 million acres. He explained that if the total output is calculated on the basis of an estimated yield per acre of 56 baskets [one basket is approximately one bushel], the minimum paddy output would be about 644 million baskets. More than 500 million baskets of paddy would be needed for the use of paddy grain as seeds, for wastage, for the farmers' own consumption, and for local distribution. He added that it is estimated that there would be a surplus of about 100 million baskets of paddy. He added that therefore, it could be seen that not only would there be a sufficient amount of rice, but there would also be surplus. Maj. Gen. Tin U said that considering these prevailing favorable conditions, the current instability of rice prices should be reexamined. [passage omitted]

Continuing, Maj. Gen. Tin U noted that the people are anticipating a decline in paddy output because of this year's floods in the Irrawaddy Division and the drought in central Myanmar [Burma]. He said that although over 200,000 acres of cultivated land were inundated by flood waters in the Irrawaddy Division, more than 100,000 acres were recultivated. Therefore, he said, the total paddy output would remain the same as last year because the damage encountered in the Irrawaddy Division floods was negligible compared with the output of the whole country. Moreover, there is no need for concern as some old stock still remain in the hands of some farmers and traders. [passage omitted]

Radio Reports Oct Anti-Drug Campaign Results

BK2911080291 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 1330 GMT 28 Nov 91

[Text] The government of the Union of Myanmar [Burma] has been stepping up its drug suppression activities from all sides as a national duty. As a result, the Defense Services and the People's Police Force reported the following drug seizures in October 1991.

The Defense Services seized 3.26 kg of opium and 0.013 kg of heroin.

Similarly, the People's Police Force was able to file charges in 60 cases involving 191.93 kg of Opium, 134 cases involving 11.73 kg of heroin; 73 cases involving 38.02 kg of marijuana; 16 cases involving 168.35 liters of phensedyl [opiated cough syrup]; 218 cases involving drug users who failed to register; and 23 other drug related cases.

During this period, the People's Police Force was able to file legal charges against 607 people involved in 524 cases.

More MPs Sign Statement Against 'Exile Group'

BK2911061691 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 1330 GMT 28 Nov 91

[Announcement No. 981 of the Commission for Multiparty Democratic General Elections of the Union of Myanmar [Burma], dated 28 November 1991]

[Text] Subject: Notice to the public regarding statements signed by the elected representatives of the National League for Democracy [NLD] that they have neither in the past, nor in the present, supported the exile group headed by Sein Win.

1. In Announcements No. 965 dated 12 September 1991, No. 968, dated 25 September 1991, No. 971 dated 6 October 1991, and No. 975 dated 4 November 1991 the commission announced that 280 elected representatives of the NLD had signed statements stating that they—members of a legally formed organization—neither did, nor do they now, support the exile group headed by Sein Win who teamed up with the insurgents KNU [Karen National Union] to illegally form the so-called National Coalition Government of the Union of Burma abroad.

2. The commission hereby puts on record that 12 more elected representatives of the NLD have signed the statements to the same effect as above.

3. The names of the list of 12 representatives will be carried by tomorrow's newspapers.

4. As of today, a total of 292 elected representatives of the NLD have signed statements that they neither did, nor they do now, support the exile group led by Sein Win. The commission hereby announces that the public will be notified of the statements it receives from the remaining elected representatives of the NLD.

By the authority vested in me.

Signed: Aye Maung, Secretary

Rangoon Reports 68 Insurgents Surrender in Oct

BK3011142291 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 1330 GMT 30 Nov 91

[Text] People belonging to various insurgent organizations who have come to realize their wrongdoing have been giving up their armed struggle and surrendering at different Army camps with arms and ammunition. Accordingly, 23 terrorist insurgents surrendered between 23 and 31 October 1991.

Between 1 and 31 October, a total of 68 terrorist insurgents have come back to the legal fold after realizing the truth and giving up the armed struggle. They were warmly received by the responsible officials of the camps concerned.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Deputy Premier Urges SRV Refugees To Go Home

BK3011154891 Kuala Lumpur Radio Malaysia Network in Malay 1430 GMT 30 Nov 91

[Text] Some 3,000 Vietnamese refugees now housed at the Sungai Besi camp in Kuala Lumpur will remain in the camp until third countries are ready to resettle them. Deputy Prime Minister Mr. Ghafar Baba said this when asked to comment on the resettlement of Vietnamese refugees from Malaysia in third countries. He said the government could not fix a dateline for the departure of these illegal immigrants from Sungai Besi. However, Malaysia will try to eject them. Mr. Ghafar Baba urged the immigrants to change their mind and to be ready to return their homeland as there was no longer any hope for their resettlement in third countries.

Earlier, the deputy prime minister handed over Bidong Island, which had been used as a temporary holding center for illegal Vietnamese immigrants, to the Terengganu State Government. A handing-over ceremony took place in Kuala Terengganu.

Plans To Meet Illegal Immigrants

BK0212085091 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0747 GMT 2 Dec 91

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Dec 2 (OANA-BERNAMA)—Malaysia's Deputy Prime Minister Ghafar Baba said Monday he will meet the Vietnamese illegal immigrants accommodated at the Sungai Besi transit camp here at the end of the month and advise them to return to their homeland.

He said he would explain to some 14,000 of them the actual situation and that the government's stand regarding their status was final.

"I will convince them that they don't have any hope of resettlement in a third country and the best step is to return home," he told reporters here

Ghafar said that Malaysia had done its best to get these countries to accept them but had met with poor response.

The Malaysian Government would not forcibly repatriate them on humanitarian grounds but allow them time to decide.

Malaysia, he said, had been sheltering the biggest number of boat people compared with other Southeast Asian nations.

The country had fulfilled its responsibility towards the boat people since they started arriving in 1975, and so far 300,000 of them had landed in Malaysia, he said.

The government had also provided Pulau Bidong as a temporary sanctuary for the boat people. The island's transit camp was closed and returned to the Terengganu Government on Saturday.

Minister: Country 'Must Be Militarily Strong'

BK3011125691 Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 29 Nov 91 p 10

[Excerpt] Kuala Lumpur, Thurs.—Malaysia must be militarily strong in order to earn the respect of other countries, Defence Minister Datuk Sri Najib Tun Razak said today.

He said the country must be able to negotiate from a "position of power" so as to safeguard its interests.

The armed forces is being modernised and equipped with more high-technology weaponry and command systems to achieve this objective.

"Modern warfare may not be like war in the classical sense, but it can also include other forms of bilateral dealings and negotiations."

"Even diplomacy can be included in this category and we would have the advantage if we are in the position of power whenever we deal with other countries."

"As such modernisation of the armed forces should be done with a commitment and zeal in order to achieve such an advantage for the country," he said. [passage omitted]

Acting Defense Chief on Armed Forces Capability

BK2911133591 Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 27 Nov 91 p 9

[By Juhaidi Yean Abdullah]

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Tues.—The Armed Forces capability to defend the country is limited to containing low-level threats, Acting Chief of Defense Forces General Tan Sri Yaacob Mohamed Zain said today.

He said the Armed Forces had yet to attain the required level of operation and firepower to engage in a conventional war with foreign aggressors.

"It will take some time before we can achieve the capability which requires the mobilization of reserves and stocks to support the regular forces in the event of a war," he told reporters at the end of the annual Army commanders' meeting at the Defense Ministry here.

The lack of air support by the Royal Malaysian Air Force (RMAF) was also hampering the establishment of the proposed Rapid Deployment Force (RDF), which was part of the Armed Forces plans to become a fully conventional force.

To assume the role of a conventional force, the Armed Forces need more sophisticated weapons, a bigger budget and must enhance training of its men, Gen. Tan Sri Yaacob said.

He added that the basic capabilities of such a force were mobility (armoured and non-armoured vehicles to transport troops and support equipment) and firepower and engineering support (bridging and mine clearing).

Gen. Tan Sri Yaacob said although there was no immediate need for the Armed Forces to procure air superiority jet fighters or sophisticated long-range missiles, there were plans to acquire them at a later date.

"I admit there are many areas where the Armed Forces, particularly the Army, are still lacking but this is no excuse for us to shirk our responsibilities.

"Also, I don't envisage a situation where Malaysia will be involved in a war with a superpower or in a scale like the Gulf War which requires us to mobilise other elements outside the Armed Forces."

On the concept on Hanruh (short for Pertahanan Seluruh) or Total Defence, Gen. Tan Sri Yaacob said it must be fully understood and accepted by all concerned parties.

"It must be implemented now and the Army must take the lead in explaining the rationale and importance of everybody's role in defending the country's sovereignty," he said.

Urges NATO Storage Standards

BK2911142891 Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 27 Nov 91 p 9

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Tue. [26 Nov]—The Army will propose that the Government adopt the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) standards of ammunition storage, acting Chief of Defense Forces General Tan Sri Yaacob Mohamed Zaid said today. He said the proposal would also include areas like the handling and transportation of explosives and pyrotechnics.

"We are reviewing the existing guidelines with the hope of improving the way we are storing, handling and transporting ammunition and other explosives," Gen. Tan Sri Yaacob said at the closing of the annual Army commanders' meeting at the Defense Ministry here.

The two-day meeting, which was opened by Defense Minister Datuk Sri Najib Tun Razak yesterday, was attended by about 50 commanders and directors of various Army commands and units.

Gen. Tan Sri Yaacob said all Western countries were adopting the NATO standards and the time was appropriate for the Army to make the recommendations.

Meanwhile, logistics commander Major General Datuk Mohamed Dahalan Sulaiman said it would take about nine months to repair the defective Army ammunition depot in Masjid Tanah, Melaka.

He said the Ministry had yet to appoint the main contractor to undertake repair works for the (M)$73 million depot.

The cost of repairing the cracked ammunition depot fence and jeep tracks is expected to be about (M)$30 million.

Maj. Gen. Datuk Mohamed Dahalan said "we will move small arms ammunition to the army base in Kluang where additional storage facilities are being built.

"The stores are expected to be completed in January."

With the construction of the additional storage facilities in Kluang, Maj. Gen. Mohamed Dahalan said a small number of soldiers would be transferred from the Masjid Tanah depot.

Singapore

Prime Minister on Japan's Military Potential

BK2911153491 Hong Kong AFP in English 1217 GMT 29 Nov 91

[Text] Singapore, Nov 29 (AFP)—Singapore Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong warned Friday international developments could propel Japan to build up its military capability with the same efficiency that characterised its economic progress.

Goh, speaking at the inaugural National University of Singapore Students' Union lecture, said Japan could take this step if the United States became isolationist, if the U.S.-Japanese alliance collapsed, or if Tokyo felt threatened by China, the Soviet Union or even a reunified Korea.

"One thing we can be sure of: if Japan decides to build up militarily, it has the resources to do so quite rapidly, and with the same hallmark of efficiency and tenacity that has characterised Japanese industry in producing non-military goods," Goh said.

He added Japan already had the world's third largest defence budget, after the U.S. and the old Soviet Union. "Soon, it will probably be second, after the U.S.," he said.

Goh said Japan was moving slowly but surely towards playing a bigger political role and spending more on defence due partly to U.S. pressure for it to shoulder more international responsibility.

Another reason was Japanese nationalism because of the growing resentment of the perceived unequal partnership arising from Japanese dependence on American protection, Goh said.

Goh said Japan would grow from strength to strength and it would like the present system of free trade to prevail so that the country continued to thrive as its largest markets are in the United States and Europe where it also had huge investment.

"But if the single European Market and the North American Free Trade Area turn into protectionist blocs, Japan could well try to establish an Asian or Asia Pacific trading bloc with itself as leader," Goh warned.

Turning to China, Goh said Beijing had become less important as a global player because of the U.S.-Soviet rapprochement. Without superpower rivalry, there was no China card, he said.

"What happens in China will have a great consequence on the rest of Asia. The next decade is a critical period for China and Asia. The Chinese leadership has to manage the difficult task of moving from a socialist to a market economy without losing control of both the economic and political situation," Goh said.

One worry, he said, was the expected transition in the leadership which could turn out to be smooth or chaotic.

If China and Taiwan were reunited by force, the whole region would be destabilised while if it was managed peacefully, Taipei could help Beijing progress much faster.

Whether China would be tempted to assert itself and influence others when it became economically and politically stronger would depend on the roles Japan and the United States played in this region, Goh said.

Prime Minister on Long-Term National Interest

BK2911120391 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 29 Nov 91 p 1

[By Sumiko Tan]

[Text] Community leaders must recognise that short-sighted, self-centred thinking is dangerous to the long-term national interest.

And they must help the Government explain this to the people so that Sidngaporeans would understand the danger of using their vote to signal their unhappiness over single policies, Mr. Goh Chok Tong said last night.

They must bring home the message that Singapore faced unique problems which sometimes required "unconventional solutions".

"If more and more Singaporeans withhold co-operation from their Government because they are unhappy with single issues, instead of judging it on its programme and record as a whole, they will make it more difficult for their Government to take a strategic view to solve problems," said the Prime Minister.

"They will force their Government, unless it is strong enough, to take a short-term view of its role and responsibility in order to win elections.

"If their Government does that, difficult problems will be left unattended, which in the end must hurt the people themselves."

Speaking at a People's Association Awards Presentation ceremony to about 1,800 community leaders at the Kaliang Theatre—exactly one year after he was sworn in as Prime Midnister—Mr. Goh also made it clear that this did not mean that the Government would brush aside the people's short-term concerns.

Acknowledging that to most people "the long-term is too far away and the short-term is what counts", he said that the Government must respond to these short-term needs.

"It must know what is hurting people, why they are restive or frustrated, and take steps to remove the causes of their unhappiness, or at least enlighten them why certain policies are necessary.

"It must be able to break down its long-term vision into near-term images which the people can understand. Then, it must be able to enthuse them, to get them to participate, and work for the vision."

The dangers of single issue voting has been a recurrent theme in his recent speeches, which come amid complaints about time-based telephone charges and certificates of entitlement.

In his speech, which he delivered first in Mandarin before turning to English, he noted that a new generation of Singaporeans had grown up full of confidence about the country's stability, security and robust economic growth.

This confidence, he said, had been encouraged "unwittingly" by the Government with its Vision of 1999 and The Next Lap.

However, these people must realise that Singapore's unique problems, such is its size, geography and demography, would always make it vulnerable in a world of many uncertainties.

Unconventional solutions, such as the vehicle quota system to curb traffic growth, were required to solve these problems, and this, in turn, needed the "special understanding" of the people.

But this understanding was not always forthcoming, he pointed out.

Citing an example, he revealed that the Government conducted a straw poll after he cautioned against short-term voting at a grassroots leaders seminar last month.

Far from agreeing with him, two-thirds of those polled said that it was perfectly all right to vote against the Government on single or personal issues with which they disagreed or were unhappy with.

Earlier in his speech, he pointed out that 1991 had been a year of "mind-boggling changes" in the region and around the world.

There were changes in Singapore, too, in the political leadership, Parliament, style and programme of Government and the people, but this change within the country was managed as part of an "evolutionary process".

Community leaders have to play their part to make the process of change "smooth and beneficial", he said urging them to help him build a country that was "rich but compassionate, robust but gracious, multi-cultural, yet harmoniously Singaporean."

Noting that it was exactly a year since he took office, he reiterated his pledge to build upon what the first generation leaders had achieved, keep Singapore growing and to share the fruits of the country's labour among all the people.

For the next five years, the Government would concentrate on improving the lives of the lower-income Singaporeans, without restraining the progress of the more able Singaporeans, he said.

It would spell out this direction and policies when Parliament opens in January, he added.

Concluding his speech by praising the community leaders for their contributions, he said: "Now, put your wealth of experience and spirit of volunteerism to help me build a cohesive, prosperous and gracious Singapore."

He later presented awards to five outstanding community centres.

Cambodia

Dumas Reportedly Not Attending Council Meeting

LD2811193191 Paris France-Inter Radio Network in French 1900 GMT 28 Nov 91

[Excerpts] Cambodia—After yesterday's forced departure of the two Khmer Rouge representatives, Prince Sihanouk has announced that the Supreme National Council will nevertheless meet next week, not in Phnom Penh, the capital of Cambodia, but in Bangkok, Thailand. [passage omitted] Norodom Sihanouk wants the two cochairmen of the peace conference on Cambodia—Roland Dumas, the French foreign minister, and Ali Alatas, the Indonesian foreign minister—to attend the meeting, but Roland Dumas has already announced that he can not attend because of prior engagements.

Repercussions of Khieu Samphan Attack Continue

Hor Namhong on 'Crisis' Solution

BK2911133891 Hong Kong AFP in English 1322 GMT 29 Nov 91

[Excerpts] Phnom Penh, Nov 29 (AFP)—The Supreme National Council (SNC) will find a solution to the crisis of the last few days that has threatened to undermine the Cambodian peace process, Foreign Minister Hor Namhong said here Friday.

The minister also told AFP that Prince Norodom Sihanouk's recent proposal to demobilise "100 percent" of the troops of the country's four factions should be discussed later rather than immediately.

"We will find a solution to implement the peace agreements," Hor Namhong said. [passage omitted]

"This was a mishap. Give us a little time to arrange things and time will sort things out," Hor Namhong said.

He said the main part of next week's discussions would be handling the problems of security for the delegations to the SNC.

Hor Namhong, who is one of the five people including Prime Minister Hun Sen on the council representing the Phnom Penh regime, is due to leave for Thailand Monday. [passage omitted]

Hor Namhong said Prince Sihanouk's call for a total demobilisation of all armed forces belonging to the country's four political factions should be discussed "later." The peace agreement envisages a 70 percent demobilisation.

"We favour a demobilisation of 70 percent before the rainy season. If this is seen to go well then the remaining 30 percent can be discussed," he said.

Son Sann Urges UNTAC Deployment

BK2911112891 Hong Kong AFP in English 1115 GMT 29 Nov 91

[Text] Phnom Penh, Nov 29 (AFP)—Son Sann, the leader of one of the non-communist factions represented on Cambodia's Supreme National Council (SNC), urged Friday the rapid arrival of a UN administration to save the country's peace accords.

"I ask UNTAC (the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia) to come as soon as possible with as many people as possible," the former prime minister told AFP.

"A massive and rapid deployment is necessary to save the Paris peace accords, whose scrupulous application is necessary to achieve national reunification," said the head of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front, which was backed by the United States and allied to two other factions during the 13-year civil war.

UNTAC is expected here in four to six months and will play a role in the administration of Cambodia until elections planned for 1993.

"I can see a long and difficult period ahead for the application of the Paris accords," Son Sann added.

He was to leave Phnom Penh on Saturday to attend a meeting in the Thai resort of Phatthaya of the SNC, a reconciliation body set up under the Paris accords to represent Cambodian sovereignty ahead of the elections.

The meeting was called by SNC head Prince Norodom Sihanouk after Khmer Rouge leaders and SNC representatives Khieu Samphan and Son Sen were forced to leave Phnom Penh following an attack by a crowd angered by the killings of more than a million people during the Marxist Khmer Rouge's four-year rule.

"We need to look for a way to calm people and I think that the application of the Paris accords must continue," Son Sann said.

Khmer Rouge Leaders Write to UN

BK3011014491 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 29 Nov 91

["Full text" of message from "their excellencies Khieu Samphan and Son Sen," members of the Supreme National Council—SNC, to his excellency the UN Secretary General, "requesting appropriate measures to ensure security for all SNC members;" dated 28 November]

[Text] The implementation of the 23 October 1991 Paris agreement to solve the Cambodian problem politically and comprehensively has been seriously threatened by the 27 November 1991 incident in Phnom Penh. This event has prevented the SNC from functioning normally in Phnom Penh as planned as there is no security guarantee for all SNC members. Everyone knows that if the SNC cannot function, the Paris peace agreement on Cambodia cannot be implemented because the close cooperation between the SNC and the UN preparatory group, and later on with the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia, is the key.

As signatories of this Paris agreement, we would like to request that Your Excellency take appropriate measures to ensure that the Paris peace agreement on Cambodia be implemented correctly, and in particular that security is ensured for all SNC members.

We would like to take this opportunity to express thanks to Your Excellency for your constant attention to defending the Paris agreement for the future of Cambodia and the Cambodian people. We would like to request that Your Excellency publish this document as an official document of the UN Security Council and the UN General Assembly.

Please, Your Excellency, accept our highest consideration.
[Dated] 28 November 1991
[Signed] Khieu Samphan, SNC member
Son Sen, SNC member.

Demand UN Troops for Security

BK0212115991 Hong Kong AFP in English 1129 GMT 2 Dec 91

[Text] Phatthaya, Thailand, Dec 2 (AFP)—The Khmer Rouge refused Monday to return to Phnom Penh until 800 United Nations troops are put in place to guarantee their security.

Details of their demands were given by Prince Norodom Sihanouk as he left here for a meeting with Thai Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun.

"They want 800 men this month from UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia], the United Nations transitional body—800 men to protect not just them but everyone in Phnom Penh on the SNC [Supreme National Council]," said the prince.

He added the Khmer Rouge had also demanded the return of Kun Tieng, one of their officials, who is reported missing following the attack on the Khmer Rouge headquarters in Phnom Penh by an angry mob last Wednesday.

"Mr Kun Tieng must be found and sent to a Khmer Rouge safe area," said the Prince.

The Khmer Rouge conditions are expected to head the agenda on the Supreme National Council (SNC), made up of all four Cambodian factions, meeting here on Tuesday.

Khieu Samphan Writes to Sihanouk

BK3011015291 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 29 Nov 91

["Full text" of the message to Norodom Sihanouk, chairman of the SNC, "on ensuring security for all SNC members in accordance with the peace agreement" from "their excellencies Khieu Samphan and Son Sen, members of the Supreme National Council—SNC;" dated 28 November]

[Text] Respected Samdech: Everyone knows that the most important thing is the implementation of the 23 October 1991 Paris agreement to solve the Cambodian problem politically and comprehensively.

The incident taking place in Phnom Penh on 27 November 1991 seriously affects this agreement. This event has prevented the SNC from functioning in Phnom Penh as planned because of security for SNC members, particularly for those from the Democratic Kampuchean side. Therefore, we would like to propose that the samdech demand security for all SNC members in accordance with the spirit and essence of the agreement. We would also like to propose again that the samdech convene the SNC meeting to discuss the implementation of the peace agreement, and in particular solve the issue of ensuring security for all SNC members.

As everyone knows, if the SNC cannot function, the peace agreement cannot be implemented in Cambodia because the close cooperation between the SNC and the UN preparatory group, and later on the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia, is the key to implementing the peace agreement.

As the samdech realizes, the entire Cambodian people and international community want the peace agreement implemented correctly from beginning to end. We appeal to all sides to abide by the peace agreement with a responsible spirit.

We would like to take this opportunity to express high admiration for the samdech's activities to convene the SNC meeting in Phnom Penh and also express most profound gratitude to the samdech and Neak Mneang [title of Sihanouk's wife] for our security and that of our colleagues.

Please accept our most profound sentiments of respect and love.

[Dated] 28 November 1991
[Signed] Khieu Samphan, SNC member
Son Sen, SNC member.

Pailin Proposed for SNC Meetings

BK3011021491 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 29 Nov 91

["Full text" of message to Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, head of state and chairman of the Supreme National Council—SNC, from Khieu Samphan and Son Sen, members of the SNC; dated 29 November]

[Text] Respected Samdech: All of us were regrettably forced to leave Phnom Penh on 27 November 1991 without even the chance to pay our respects to the samdech and Neak Mneang [title of Sihanouk's wife]. The samdech and Neak Mneang, now as in the past, have always paid attention to all of us by allowing us to call on you and cordially hosting luncheons for us.

We would like to express once again most profound gratitude to the samdech and Neak Mneang. We would like to take this opportunity to express full assistance and support for the samdech to convene the SNC meeting in Bangkok, the Kingdom of Thailand, following the recent incident in Phnom Penh.

We would like to propose that after the SNC meeting in Bangkok at the samdech's proposal, successive SNC meetings in the future ought to be held on Cambodian territory in order to implement the Paris agreement to solve the Cambodian problem politically and comprehensively.

In the event SNC meetings cannot be held in Phnom Penh, we are ready to play host to the meetings in Pailin, if the Samdech agrees and if other SNC members agree. With permission to use Pailin as the venue for the meetings, we can assume the following tasks:

1. Ensure full security for all SNC members and representatives of other countries who take part in the meeting and provide accommodation and food to everyone.

2. Allow local and foreign reporters to follow entirely the meetings.

While waiting for the samdech's advice on this matter, we would like to ask that the samdech accept our most profound sentiments of respect and love.

[Dated] 29 November 1991
[Signed] Khieu Samphan, SNC member
Son Sen, SNC member.

'Guarantee of Security' Needed

BK3011074391 (Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian 0430 GMT 30 Nov 91

[Text] Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, chairman of the Supreme National Council [SNC] and head of state of Cambodia, said yesterday that Khieu Samphan, leader of the Party of Democratic Kampuchea, will return to Phnom Penh even though he was attacked by demonstrators there on Wednesday.

The samdech said he had received a message from Khieu Samphan yesterday afternoon saying that he would return to Phnom Penh with his delegation. Samdech Norodom Sihanouk disclosed this to reporters at the royal palace in Phnom Penh during a meeting with John Holloway, Australian ambassador to the SNC.

Samdech Norodom Sihanouk said Khieu Samphan needs a serious guarantee of security from Hun Sen's faction, and that Hun Sen and his delegation will give the Khmer Rouge leaders and their delegation all the needed security-related assurances and guarantees.

The samdech further said the government of Hun Sen's faction gave him the assurance that the Phnom Penh side will provide Khieu Samphan and Son Sen and other Khmer Rouge delegates with 100 percent protection and a guarantee of safety. He added that the Khmer Rouge will be given a new house with better protection than the one that was attacked by the demonstrators. He said: The house will be defended by police officers of the Phnom Penh faction, and Phnom Penh leaders themselves will frequently oversee the situation to make sure that the Khmer Rouge delegation is satisfied with its security and safety.

Samdech Norodom Sihanouk will arrive in Thailand from Phnom Penh this Saturday, 30 November, in order to preside over an SNC meeting in the Thai city of Phatthaya on 3 December.

'Various' Reactions to Attack

BK3011040091 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 29 Nov 91

["Various reactions to the attack on the house of Khieu Samphan and Son Sen, members of the Cambodian Supreme National Council, in Phnom Penh"]

[Text] 1. Since the evening of 27 November, with the attack on the house of their excellencies Khieu Samphan and Son Sen, members of the Supreme National Council [SNC], in Phnom Penh, there were many reactions around the world, particularly the reaction of Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, head of state of Cambodia and chairman of the SNC; that of the Thai leaders; that of the Chinese Government; and others around the world. These reactions point the finger at those who had planned the brutal attack on the house of their excellencies Khieu Samphan and Son Sen, SNC members, in Phnom Penh. This raises the following questions:

How the affront against their excellencies Khieu Samphan and Son Sen, SNC members, will affect the work of the SNC under the samdech head of state of Cambodia and chairman of the SNC; how will this affect the security of the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia [UNTAC]; and how will this affect the security of the samdech head of state of Cambodia and chairman of the SNC? It raises the question as to whether Vietnamese enemy aggressors' forces in Cambodia can be controlled or not. It also raises this issue: If peace does not take place in Cambodia, can there be peace in Southeast Asia? And so on.

2. On 28 and 29 November, world reaction to this brutal incident continues. Among these reactions are those from political figures and diplomats, from the press, television, and radios, a number of countries and governments, and from the Cambodian people in and outside the country. The essence of these reactions can be summed up as follows:

1. People oppose the brutal act against the house of their excellencies Khieu Samphan and Son Sen, SNC members, in Phnom Penh.

2. People say this brutal act is planned by foreigners who, in the past as in the present, do not want an agreement to solve the Cambodian problem comprehensively. These foreigners have opposed the implementation of the Paris agreement to solve Vietnam's war of aggression politically and comprehensively and intend to implement a strategy to draw maximum benefit from Cambodia.

3. People think that if a small group in and outside Cambodia commits brutal acts to destroy their excellencies Khieu Samphan and Son Sen, SNC members, in Phnom Penh and their presence within the SNC in accordance with the Paris agreement, can the Paris agreement on the Cambodian problem be implemented? This is because the Paris agreement clearly stipulates that the SNC, with Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, head of state of Cambodia and chairman of the Cambodian SNC, is the sole source of Cambodia's state authority which has to cooperate with UNTAC to implement the agreement to end Vietnam's war of aggression in Cambodia.

4. People hold that only when SNC members from all four parties are working within the SNC, chaired by the samdech head of state of Cambodia, can the Paris agreement on the Cambodian problem be successively implemented.

5. People think that the incident taking place in the house of their excellencies Khieu Samphan and Son Sen, SNC members, in Phnom Penh affects the implementation of the Paris agreement, the restoration of peace in Cambodia, and the stability in Southeast Asia.

6. People hold that because of all these consequences, the 18 countries and governments, signatories of the Paris agreement, the United Nations, and peace- and justice-loving countries the world over—who are satisfied with the agreement and want it implemented correctly and meticulously and want the Cambodian people genuinely reconciled and unified for the benefit of Cambodia, Southeast Asia, and the world—should closely follow the situation and strive to prevent acts which affect the Paris agreement, particularly the SNC which has four parties in it, in order to enable this four-party-SNC to carry out its work normally and closely cooperate with UNTAC to implement the Paris agreement on the Cambodian problem well and successively through to the end.

Sihanouk Leaves for Thailand

BK3011092891 Hong Kong AFP in English 0911 GMT 30 Nov 91

[Text] Phnom Penh, Nov 30 (AFP)—Prince Norodom Sihanouk left here Saturday for Thailand, where he is to head a crucial meeting of Cambodia's Supreme National Council (SNC).

The prince told a press conference before his departure that he was "optimistic that the Phatthaya III will be successful."

The meeting, to begin in the Thai beach resort of Phatthaya on Tuesday, will be the third time the grouping of Cambodia's four warring factions will have met in Phatthaya.

The SNC is expected to discuss security arrangements following Wednesday's mob attack on Khmer Rouge leaders Khieu Samphan and Son Sen which caused them to flee Phnom Penh.

"Khieu Samphan and Son Sen let me know today they are ready to come back here to work normally," Prince Sihanouk said.

Their presence in Phnom Penh is essential for the SNC to operate.

The SNC is designed to embody Cambodian sovereignty until elections can be held under a U.N.-sponsored peace plan.

The peace blueprint signed in Paris in October calls for the United Nations to play an overriding role in the administration of the country, the demobilization of the various armies, maintenance of the ceasefire and the organization of elections.

Sihanouk To Convey Assurances

BK3011124891 Hong Kong AFP in English 1240 GMT 30 Nov 91

[Excerpts] Phatthaya, Thailand, Nov 30 (AFP)—Prince Norodom Sihanouk said here Saturday he would convey to Khmer Rouge leaders assurances from the Cambodian Government that they would be safe if they returned to Phnom Penh.

However, the prince, head of Cambodia's Supreme National Council (SNC) reconciliation body of the rival Cambodian factions, told reporters he had asked U.N. military personnel in Phnom Penh to help guarantee their safety, but implied that his request was turned down.

Sihanouk made his comments to reporters after arriving in this Thai seaside resort where the 12-member SNC is to meet Tuesday to discuss security arrangements for the radical Marxist faction's political leader Khieu Samphan and military leader Son Sen. [passage omitted]

He said the Phnom Penh leaders had told him they had "already taken all measures to accommodate Mr. Khieu Samphan and Mr. Son Sen as well as their delegation in government houses which will be protected by the army and the police."

Sihanouk said he had also received a message from the Khmer Rouge leaders expressing readiness to return to the Cambodian capital, adding that he would convey Phnom Penh's assurances to them during a meeting here later Saturday.

The prince repeated the optimism he expressed before leaving for Thailand over the outcome of the SNC meeting in Phatthaya.

The meeting would be "successful as I have practically solved the problem of the safety of the Khmer Rouge in Phnom Penh," he said.

The Phnom Penh Government had however asked him to advise the Khmer Rouge to come back to Phnom Penh "discreetly," without publicising the date of their return in order to avoid further incidents, he said.

Sihanouk said he had asked the U.N. Advance Mission in Cambodia (UNAMIC), which was dispatched to the country following the signing of its peace treaty and includes a military component of about 200, to help in the protection of Khmer Rouge officials in Phnom Penh.

"But there was no precise answer," he said. [passage omitted]

Sihanouk 'Deeply Saddened'

BK0112015691 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 30 Nov 91

[Excerpts] After his arrival in Bangkok from Phnom Penh, Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, head of state of Cambodia and chairman of the Supreme National Council [SNC], went straight to Phatthaya.

On the evening of 30 November, after 2000, the samdech and Neak Mneang [title of Sihanouk's wife] hosted a meal for their excellencies Khieu Samphan and Son Sen, SNC members, and their colleagues at the Royal Cliff hotel, the place where the first and second Phatthaya meetings were held in June and August 1991. The samdech and Neak Mneang cordially and warmly paid attention to talking to and having a meal with their excellencies Khieu Samphan and Son Sen, SNC members, and colleagues following the brutal incident affecting the house and the body of their excellencies Khieu Samphan and Son Sen in Phnom Penh.

Everyone knows that the samdech head of state of Cambodia and chairman of the SNC went to stay in the Khemarin palace in Phnom Penh on 14 November 1991 in order to set up the headquarters of the SNC in Phnom Penh so that this body can function in accordance with the Paris agreement. [passage omitted]

The Cambodian people in Phnom Penh, the diplomatic corps in Phnom Penh, and the UN control group, like the Cambodian people outside the country and the international community, are looking forward to 4 December 1991 when the SNC holds a working meeting under the chairmanship of the samdech head of state of Cambodia and SNC chairman, with the hope that the process to implement the Paris agreement will gradually start.

However, the enemies of the Cambodian nation and people have plans to destroy this and prevent the full SNC from meeting at its headquarters in Phnom Penh. This is why the enemies of our nation and people carried out a plan bringing a group of persons to attack the house of their excellencies Khieu Samphan and Son Sen, SNC members, and even caused bodily harm to these two excellencies.

The samdech was deeply saddened by this incident. On the one hand, he is sad because this brutal event affected SNC members, and on the other, and most importantly, this affects the entire SNC and the implementation of the Paris agreement. It was in such a situation that

Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, head of state of Cambodia and SNC chairman, immediately called for a meeting of the SNC in Thailand.

The Thai Government kindly consented, with a spirit to strive to find peace for Cambodia, to organize an SNC meeting under the chairmanship of the samdech head of state of Cambodia and SNC chairman in Phatthaya on 3 December 1991.

The Cambodian people, who have been victims of a war of aggression for nearly 13 years, are looking forward to this SNC meeting in Phatthaya with the hope that the SNC meeting under the chairmanship of Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, head of state of Cambodia, will bring fine results to unify and reconcile the nation, particularly unity within the four-party SNC, to provide favorable conditions for the SNC to carry out its task in Cambodia in cooperation with the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia to implement the Paris agreement on Cambodia well, correctly, thoroughly, and quickly to respond to the profound aspiration of the entire Cambodian nation and people as well as that of people in Southeast Asia and the entire world.

PRC Minister's Visit Postponed

BK0212130091 Phnom Penh SPK in English 1109 GMT 2 Dec 91

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK December 2—China, in apparent retaliation for an attack in Phnom Penh on Khmer Rouge leaders, has postponed [the] visit by its foreign minister to the Cambodian capital, it was announced in Phatthaya, Thailand Saturday.

Qian Qichen's December 5-6 visit was postponed without setting new dates because of unspecified "technical reasons," said Fu Xuezhang, a senior Chinese diplomat.

But analysts said the move clearly resulted from Beijing's anger at Wednesday's attack on the residence in Phnom Penh of Khmer Rouge leaders Khieu Samphan and Son Sen.

China has given massive military and diplomatic assistance to the Khmer Rouge faction whose guerrilla force forms the backbone of a coalition which in October signed a peace treaty with Phnom Penh government, ending a 13-year civil war.

The attack in Phnom Penh slightly wounded Khieu Samphan and forced him together with Son Sen to flee the Cambodian capital hours after his arrival to be flown back to Bangkok.

The two men had come to Phnom Penh as members of the Supreme National Council (SNC), a reconciliation body of the rival factions, which under the peace accord is to be headquartered in the Cambodian capital.

China has played a key role in Cambodia's peace process, both through normalising relations with neighbouring Vietnam earlier this month and as one of the UN Security Council's five permanent members.

Cambodia's accord has been brokered by the five, and analysts consider that their role in the consolidation of the country's fragile peace is crucial.

Fu, China's representative to the SNC, said he had informed SNC Chairman Prince Norodom Sihanouk of the postponement of Qian's visit.

Sihanouk replied that the invitation extended to Qian still stood and that he could visit Phnom Penh any time, Fu said.

Earlier Sihanouk said he had come to Phatthaya with assurances from the Phnom Penh leadership that the safety of the Khmer Rouge leaders and their delegation would be properly assured when they returned to the Cambodian capital.

Ranariddh: KR Leaders To Return

BK0112154991 Hong Kong AFP in English 1437 GMT 1 Dec 91

[Excerpts] Phatthaya, Thailand, Dec 1 (AFP)—Cambodian faction leader Prince Norodom Ranariddh said here Sunday he expected Khmer Rouge [KR] leaders to return to Phnom Penh after receiving "concrete" assurances on their safety from the government.

As he went into a meeting with his father, Supreme National Council (SNC) chairman Prince Norodom Sihanouk, Prince Ranariddh forecast that the Phnom Penh government would "provide concrete assurances and measures" to prevent a repetition of an attack in the Cambodian capital in which Khmer Rouge leader Khieu Samphan was slightly wounded in the head.

"I believe that everything will be smooth," Prince Ranariddh said.

The SNC, a reconciliation body formed under the terms of Cambodia's United Nations-brokered peace treaty, is to meet here Tuesday to discuss security arrangements for the leaders of the Marxist guerrilla faction. [passage omitted]

Prince Ranariddh dismissed suggestions the alliance might derail the U.N. accord by antagonising the Khmer Rouge and by threatening to blunt U.N. actions in running ministries ahead of elections planned for early 1993.

"Our alliance is not at all against the peace agreement. It is not against any Cambodian party. We simply want to win the elections," he said.

Prince Sihanouk's son also said he was "not aware" that he would soon join Hun Sen's government as a vice premier, as announced recently by the Phnom Penh leader.

He said his faction would not take up "political ministries" such as the interior or defense portfolios when a coalition government is formed.

"What we want is to improve the general economic situation," Prince Ranariddh said, adding that his faction would be in a position to run government departments such as public works or health.

Hun Sen Leaves for Thailand

BK0212025691 Hong Kong AFP in English 0244 GMT 2 Dec 91

[Excerpt] Phnom Penh, Dec 2 (AFP)—Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen left Phnom Penh Monday for Thailand to attend a meeting of the Supreme National Council (SNC) aimed at putting the peace process back on track after an attack on Khmer Rouge [KR] leaders.

The meeting, which will take place Tuesday in the Thai seaside resort of Phatthaya, will focus on security for the Khmer Rouge in the Cambodian capital, the prime minister said before boarding a plane for Thailand.

He said "there are no other major issues left to resolve... now that we have found a residence for the Khmer Rouge," where they would be better protected.

Hun Sen on Khmer Rouge Security

BK0212132991 Phnom Penh SPK in English 1122 GMT 2 Dec 91

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK December 02—Prime Minister Hun Sen said in Phatthaya, Thailand, today that if any country, UNAMIC [UN Advance Mission in Cambodia] or UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia] intended to defend the Khmer Rouge, he would be glad to give the task to them.

The Prime Minister, who arrived in Phattahya today to attend the forthcoming meeting of the Supreme National Council (SNC), said the meeting would mainly focus on the guarantee of security for the Khmer Rouge leaders in Phnom Penh.

Hun Sen, who was accompanied by other SNC members of the State of Cambodia to the [words indistinct], told the journalists at the Royal Cliff beach resort in Phatthaya that the State of Cambodia had difficulty in guaranteeing security and safety for the Khmer Rouge leaders from retaliatory attacks for their past practices by angry people.

However, the prime minister said his government would try its best to ensure security for the Khmer Rouge leaders.

He said: "It takes two weeks to prepare a safe place in Phnom Penh for the Khmer Rouge".

The Phatthaya meeting is due to open at Phatthaya on December 3 after a failure to hold it in Phnom Penh on December 4 as originally planned. The cancelation of the SNC meeting in Phnom Penh resulted from a lynching attack against the Khmer Rouge leaders Khieu Samphan and Son Sen by angry demonstrators in [words indistinct] Wednesday, which made them flee Phnom Penh for Bangkok.

On the postponement of the Chinese foreign minister's visit to Cambodia, Hun Sen said he had not officially received any information from China yet, but only from newspaper reports.

Letters Said To Implicate Pol Pot

BK0212101491 Hong Kong AFP in English 1006 GMT 2 Dec 91

[By Sheri Prasso]

[Text] Phnom Penh, Dec 2 (AFP)—Documents saved from a bonfire during last week's mob attack on the Khmer Rouge house show that the delegation in Phnom Penh was regularly sending reports on its activities directly to Pol Pot.

Khmer Rouge leaders have steadfastly denied that the infamous leader of the Marxist revolution in 1975 had any current role in their organization. But Cambodia analysts believe he is still directing the movement from bases in western Cambodia or Thailand.

As an angry lynch mob ransacked the house of Khieu Samphan and Son Sen, AFP journalists recovered file folders about to be thrown on a bonfire of furniture and other contents of the house.

Most documents went up in flames, but in one folder saved by AFP—marked "Report on Phnom Penh"—were a number of handwritten and typewritten messages in the Khmer language addressed to "Number 87 and Phem."

French researcher Christophe Peschoux, who has interviewed several Khmer Rouge defectors in recent years and is a foremost expert on the country, says that Number 87 is the code name for Pol Pot himself.

The meaning of "Phem" was not immediately clear.

The letters give precise details of all meetings and many conversations held by the members of the Khmer Rouge delegation, who returned to Phnom Penh ahead of Khmer Rouge leader Khieu Samphan—who was driven out the day he arrived, November 27.

Son Sen was the first to arrive officially in the capital, on November 17.

The letters in the folder are dated November 20, 21 and 22. They are signed by "Khieu," which appears to be the code name of Son Sen.

One report speaks of "Khieu's" presence at a ceremony at the Royal Palace to sign an agreement to repatriate refugees from Thailand.

Son Sen was the sole representative of the Khmer Rouge at that signing ceremony on November 21.

Also saved from the flames was a page from the United Nation's Convention for the Prevention and Repression of Genocide Crimes, with many passages underlined in red.

One passage with a double underline concerns the definition of genocide, saying it must be committed "with the intention to destroy ... a national, ethnic, racial or religious group."

Another highlighted passage says genocide crimes are not extraditable offenses.

One letter dated November 20 notes a request by Prince Norodom Sihanouk several days before to visit territory controlled by the Khmer Rouge in February.

Another dated November 22 gives details of a visit by Prince Norodom Ranariddh, Sihanouk's son, who came to explain the reasons for the alliance between his faction FUNCINPEC [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia] and the Phnom Penh government.

The same letter details how Khmer Rouge cadres found life in Phnom Penh after 13 years of absence.

"While in the car yesterday, I noted that there were people everywhere," Khieu wrote to Number 87.

"Everybody looks well, but they are not completely happy because life is very hard for the civil servants here, who have only received one month's salary since June."

The radical Marxists were diven out of government by a Vietnamese invasion in 1979 and replaced with the Phnom Penh government. The Khmer Rouge fought a civil war after their ouster from power and until they signed a peace treaty in October bringing all the factions to the capital.

The same letter also says staff at the government guest house where the Khmer Rouge delegation first stayed were "doing everything possible to help us look for a house, some of them because they are poor and want a commission and others because they have nationalist sentiments."

It concludes that more news about Prince Sihanouk and the Phnom Penh government would be detailed in the next letter.

The correspondence is meticulously detailed in the style used by the Khmer Rouge.

The Khmer Rouge announced in 1985 that Pol Pot and his lieutenants Ieng Sary and Ta Mok had retired from the movement to be replaced by Khieu Samphan and Son Sen.

In an interview with AFP the day before the mob attack, Son Sen insisted that Pol Pot has no role in the organization.

"We don't like to speak about him because it is the past," he said. "He has ceased all his activities.

Aftermath of Attack Examined

BK2911032591 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 29 Nov 91 p 4

["Cambodian Diary" by Jacques Bekaert: "Peace Pact now at Stake"]

[Text] The attack on Khmer Rouge leader Khieu Samphan, only a few hours after he arrived in Phnom Penh, raised serious questions about the future of the Cambodian peace agreement. It is understandable that a lot of people in Cambodia do not like the Khmer Rouge, and that many would like to see them brought to trial. The Khmer Rouge regime committed one of the worst offences against human rights, equal at least to the terrible abuses perpetrated in the 20th Century in the Soviet Union under Stalin, in China during the Cultural Revolution, or in Nazi Germany.

But an agreement had been signed based on the cooperation of the four Cambodian factions. Wednesday's attack raised a lot of questions, but they are not only about the past guilt of the Khmer Rouge leadership. (How many people or countries are in this case guilty by association? How many people or countries at first supported the Khmer Rouge? How many continued to keep silent in 1977-78 for political reasons?)

The questions raised on Wednesday concern the will of each faction to ensure that the peace agreement will be honoured, and the ability of Cambodia to start the business of recontruction.

While in Phnom Penh a few weeks ago I asked dozens of people how they felt about the return of the Khmer Rouge. While nobody had a good word for the Khmer Rouge (save a worker who said that "at least they fight the Vietnamese"), nobody expressed the desire to do anything violent against them. The most common opinion was that the return of some of the Khmer Rouge leaders was the price to pay for peace, that peace was the most important thing for Cambodia today. With the UN presence, some said, there was little the Khmer Rouge could do anyway.

A senior party member told me that one of the great worries of the Phnom Pehn regime was its capability to provide security to all members of the Supreme National Concil, "especially the Khmer Rouge."

"If anything happens to Son Sen or Khieu Samphan," he said, "the world will believe that we are not capable of respecting the peace accord, that we are a weak government." The person who spoke to us, a dedicated member of one of the highest organs of the Cambodian People's

Party, was sincere in his desire for peace and believed the UN presence was crucial to guaranteeing the future of the settlement.

Nevertheless in the past two weeks, especially since the return of Prince Sihanouk to Cambodia, the ruling party has increased its anti-Khmer Rouge propaganda. Again, this is understandable but it may not be the best thing to do to ensure a peaceful atmosphere. One could add that the Cambodians know very well what most of them went through during the Pol Pot years and they need no reminder.

How spontaneous were the recent demonstrations against the Khmer Rouge? Certainly after 1975 there has never been a truly spontaneous demonstation in Cambodia. Even during Sihanouk's return, people had been recruited to come and cheer. A lot of them were probably happy to do so, but the fact remains that free expression is still most unusual in Cambodia.

Have things changed so dramatically in the past few days? Have Cambodians suddenly been convinced that they truly live in a free, democratic and pluralistic society? How long would a spontaneous demonstration in front of the Royal Palace calling for the deposition of Prince Sihanouk last? How long would a spontaneous demonstration in front of the houses of Hun Sen and Chea Sim calling for the removal from office of all former Khmer Rouge last? After all, there are a few people in Phnom Penh who hate Prince Sihanouk, and more than a few who do not like the communist past of some of the leaders of the Cambodian People's Party.

Why did the Interior Ministry tell the police not to intervene during Wednesday's demonstration against Khieu Samphan? Certainly somebody must have been aware that things could go very wrong. It was, after all, the responsibility of the Cambodian authorities to protect the members of the SNC regardless of their feelings about some of them. And the government failed.

Some sources have suggested that there are still powerful elements in the ruling party who do not want the UN peace agreement to succeed, who are convinced that with Prince Sihanouk back and now closely allied to the ruling party they can have the cake and eat it. That they can keep their power (something that has become much more important than any previous ideological commitment) and benefit from the shower of money they expect will pour over Cambodia in the next few years.

What is at stake is much more than just the safety of Mr Khieu Samphan. It is the substance of peace in a country where so much has gone wrong for the past 20 years or so. What happened—and the way it happened—will probably convince the Khmer Rouge that nothing has changed in Phnom Penh, that no one can be trusted, that the struggle must go on. They have no chance, you may say.

Some of the fundamental reasons for the Khmer Rouge's existence—the extreme poverty and neglect of the poor peasants, corruption among many of the people in power, and Phnom Penh's indifference towards the plight of the rural population—are still there. One Soviet diplomat who served in Cambodia in the mid-eighties told me recently that he had never seen "party leaders who had so little concern for the wellbeing of their people." The lack of social concern is not unique to the CPP, it characterised the ruling class in the past, and the abuse of power fuelled some violent revolt, like the Samlaut rebellion in 1967.

Will the Khmer Rouge decide that Wednesday's attack on Khieu Samphan is only a small incident, best forgotten, and that everything should go on according to the UN plan? Will they decide to replace Khieu Samphan, the official symbol of the Khmer Rouge, by somebody less known by the population (like Mr Chan Youran) or will they conclude that the time has come for another stage of their revolution?

Cambodia is so fragile, and its social structure is so unbalanced that it could create serious problems for Phnom Penh.

Vietnamese Said Behind Attack

BK0212033191 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 1 Dec 91

["Various events related to the attack on the house of Their Excellencies Khieu Samphan and Son Sen, member of the Supreme National Council, on 27 November 1991"]

[Text] It has been clear to national and international public opinion that the brutal attack on the house of Their Excellencies Khieu Samphan and Son Sen in Phnom Penh on 27 November was carried out in line with a pre-arranged plan by a foreign alliance.

To enable national and international public opinion to have a clearer account of this matter, we would like to present a number of documents related to this brutal act as follows:

1. On the morning of 27 November, before His Excellency Khieu Samphan arrived at Pochentong Airport at 0830, approximately 1,000 students aged 10 to 18 walked in line from the Tuol Kouk, Russian technical, and Vat Toek Thla schools and lined up on both sides of the road leading from Pochentong Airport to Phnom Penh, giggling and chatting with each other as they normally do.

After His Excellency Khieu Samphan's motorcade passed by, these students walked in orderly fashion back to their schools. Therefore, the demonstration was not staged by students. No people took part in this demonstration.

2. At 0910, His Excellency Khieu Samphan arrived at his residence, where His Excellency Son Sen was waiting for him. Immediately after His Excellency Khieu Samphan

entered the house, some individuals started to throw stones at the residence's windows and 30 to 40 other individuals armed with hammers, axes, iron bars, and knives struck the iron gate and broke the fence. These 30 to 40 elements were assigned to attack and break into the house in order to manhandle Their Excellencies Khieu Samphan and Son Sen.

These elements' activities—throwing stones into the house and using hammers, axes, and iron bars to break the fence and the house—took place from 0910 in the morning to 1500 in the afternoon. These brutal activities took place in broad daylight in the heart of Phnom Penh. Such an act caught the attention of passers-by, and many people stopped to look. Therefore, it was not these people who demonstrated or attacked the house of Their Excellencies Khieu Samphan and Son Sen, but just a handful of individuals.

It also is necessary to note the condition of the house that these individuals tried to break in. It is as follows:

1. It is surrounded by a strong fence with a solid iron gate, which no one can jump over to enter the house.

2. The house doors and windows were strengthened with grilles. Ordinary people, no matter how many join hands, cannot break into this house through human strength alone. Therefore, to enter this house, one must use hammers, iron bars, and axes to break the cement pillars on the two sides of the door and then dig out the grille. [Words indistinct] hammers, iron bars, and axes to break the main door made of cement can one take out the grille. This job requires specialists. Ordinary persons cannot do this. Moreover, it takes quite a lot of time. That is why these elements, before they could enter the house, had to throw stones and [words indistinct] that made a loud noise, hurting the ears of those inside the house for nearly six hours.

In their attempt to break the fence and walls and to dig out the grilles, these elements were disappointed and withdrew several times. But, later on, they returned on orders from afar and with foreigners standing by to hand out dollars to them.

That is why the house of Their Excellencies Khieu Samphan and Son Sen was smashed completely and dismantled. This is not just an ordinary break-in.

It should be noted that in addition to smashing the house, these elements have arrested a colleague and an assistant of Their Excellencies Khieu Samphan and Son Sen. That is:

1. They arrested Mr. Mak Ben and sent him to the security department of the Phnom Penh party.
2. They arrested Mr. (Kun Tieng) and are still keeping him.
3. The 30 to 40 elements who attacked the house of Their Excellencies Khieu Samphan and Son Sen were led by Vietnamese. Some of them were pure Vietnamese who could not speak Khmer, while some others could speak Khmer only a little bit. Some others were members of the A-3 unit organized and trained at Bak Tuk school near Olympic Stadium. The A-3 elements spoke Vietnamese in radio contacts with the Vietnamese commanders who personally organized the attack on the house of Their Excellencies Khieu Samphan and Son Sen.

The elements who climbed up to the roof of the house of Their Excellencies Khieu Samphan and Son Sen spoke Vietnamese when ordering their men to charge into [words indistinct]. Our officials in a room could clearly hear those on the roof speaking.

At around 1600, when Their Excellencies Khieu Samphan and Son Sen were led to Pochentong Airport, an individual, an Asian, among these bad elements, spoke to one of our diplomats in English. Those who stood around to hand out dollar notes to encourage the cat's-paws whenever they were disappointed with their attempt are foreigners.

4. The encroachment upon the house of an ordinary citizen already is a severe crime against the law. The crime committed on 27 November against the house of Their Excellencies Khieu Samphan and Son Sen is not just an encroachment upon the house of an ordinary citizen. This crime is, in fact, a second aggression against Cambodia aimed at renewing the occupation of Cambodia. This is because:

First, it was committed in broad daylight.
Second, it was committed in the heart of Phnom Penh.
Third, it was aimed at destroying the Supreme National Council [SNC], which is defined by the Paris agreement as being the sole source of authority in Cambodia and only representative of Cambodia's sovereignty.

Fourth, it was an act aimed at destroying the agreement itself.

Thus, it was not just an accidental or occasional violation of the agreement. It was an attempt to keep the SNC from cooperating with the UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia] in supervising the withdrawal of all categories of foreign forces from Cambodia.

The Cambodian people who want peace, independence, and national reconciliation were enraged by this brutal act. The people of Phnom Penh in particular are expressing their anger over this matter, from one mouth to another, in market places, ministries, departments, villages, and houses. They are of the opinion that it is necessary for the United Nations to provide measures to ensure security for all SNC members so that the SNC has sufficient conditions for working in Phnom Penh and so that it can cooperate with the UNTAC in implementing the agreement successfully.

Effect on Peace Process Viewed

BK0112080091 Hong Kong AFP in English 0738 GMT 1 Dec 91

[by Charles-Antoine de Nerciat]

[Text] Phatthaya, Thailand, Dec 1 (AFP)—Cambodia's fragile peace process could grind to a halt if Khmer Rouge leaders, who just fled Phnom Penh for their lives, do not win effective guarantees for their safety, analysts said here Sunday.

Khieu Samphan and Son Sen, who represent the radical Marxist faction on Cambodia's Supreme National Council (SNC), told SNC chairman Prince Norodom Sihanouk late Saturday they would not go back to Phnom Penh without airtight assurances from the Cambodian Government, Khmer Rouge officials said.

The warning threw cold water on an earlier statement by the prince, who has adopted a position of neutrality as the head of the SNC, a reconciliation body of Cambodia's rival factions, that he had "practically settled the problem of accommodation and safety of the Khmer Rouge in Phnom Penh."

Prince Sihanouk, talking to reporters on arriving at this Thai beach resort from Phnom Penh, said he was bringing the Chinese-backed Khmer Rouge full assurances from the Phnom Penh top leadership for their safety.

This apparently was not enough for Khmer Rouge titular leader Khieu Samphan, who went into the meeting with Prince Sihanouk with a scar on his forehead from a slight wound received during Wednesday's riots in Phnom Penh, and for Son Sen, the faction's guerrilla force chief.

In the attack on Wednesday, an angry mob sought to avenge Khmer Rouge atrocities in extermination campaigns during their 1975-1979 rule.

Khmer Rouge officials said the two men would wait and see what Phnom Penh Prime Minister Hun Sen would come up with in an SNC meeting here Tuesday.

Under the United Nations-brokered peace accord signed by all four warring Cambodian factions in Paris in October, the SNC is to be headquartered in the Cambodian capital. As the body's decisions must be reached by consensus, the Khmer Rouge or any other faction may block its functioning.

The postponement of Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen's visit to Phnom Penh was another sign that hard bargaining is to be expected to solve the dispute over last week's mob attack.

Immediately after Prince Sihanouk told reporters here that Qian's December 5-6 visit was to go ahead, he was formally informed that the trip was postponed indefinitely.

He learned of the decision during a meeting with China's envoy to the SNC, Fu Xiezhang, a specialist in Cambodian affairs.

Chinese diplomats said after the meeting that Beijing blamed "technical reasons" for the postponement, but analysts said it was almost certainly linked to the anti-Khmer Rouge riots.

Had Qian's visit gone forward, Khieu Samphan and Son Sen would have had to return to the Cambodian capital for the occasion, with or without the assurances they want from the Phnom Penh leadership, the diplomats noted.

They were, however, quick to point out that Beijing, which has played a key role in Cambodia's peace process, would continue to press ahead with its efforts to help restore peace in the Southeast Asian country.

The role of China, as one of the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council and the main backer of the Khmer Rouge, was central in the run-up to the Paris agreement.

Another precipitating factor was the decision in October by China's communist leadership, with the Soviet bloc crumbling, to mend its relations with neighbouring socialist Vietnam, Phnom Penh's ally.

Chea Sim Interviewed by Australian Reporter

BK2911115191 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 0430 GMT 29 Nov 91

[Interview with Chea Sim, chairman of the Central Committee of the Cambodian People's Party, National Assembly, and the National Council of the Kampuchean United Front for National Construction and Defense, by Australian journalist (Thomson Greg) on 21 November; place not given; read by announcers]

[Text] [Announcer] We received a 19 November statement with the Cambodian People's Party [CPP] declaration that the samdech has been given back his 1970 post as head of state. Does this mean the samdech will be head of the State of Cambodia [SOC] and chairman of the Supreme National Council [SNC]?

[Chea Sim] The CPP and SOC Government has issued a statement stating that the coup d'etat staged by Lon Nol and Sirik Matak was illegal. This statement also supports the samdech as the legal head of state as in 1970.

Therefore, the samdech is Cambodia's legal head of state as in 1970 from now until the presidential election and SNC chairman. This is the wish of the Cambodian people.

[Announcer] This seems quite complicated as Chairman Heng Samrin, who chairs the SOC Council of State, has become the head of the SOC. With the samdech's restoration, does this mean that Cambodia now has two heads of state as your excellency has two (?flags)?

[Chea Sim] In his past statements, Samdech Sihanouk has always stressed that he would not interfere in the affairs of the CPP and SOC Government, which will proceed normally. The CPP statement supports Samdech Norodom Sihanouk who was the head of state through elections since 1970 and who was deposed in the coup d'etat. He has declared that he will stand for the coming presidential election. Presently, he is still our legal head of state. This does not affect the work of the CPP and SOC Government. He has welcomed and supported the CPP and SOC Government.

[Announcer] You have always had harmonious relations with Samdech Sihanouk in the past, in the absence of the Khmer Rouge or China. With the Chinese Embassy being opened in Cambodia and the return of the Khmer Rouge in Cambodia, what will become of this relationship?

[Chea Sim] CPP and SOC relations at present and in the future will always be good because they regard the samdech as the prince father and father of the nation. On 20 November, the CPP and Prince Norodom Ranariddh's party signed an alliance. They will cooperate with sincerity and mutual understanding.

[Announcer] In a news conference, the samdech spoke about economic development akin to Thailand's until he [words indistinct]. But, you seem to be more careful about economic development. Therefore, do you think that all foreign investments coming to Cambodia are good?

[Chea Sim] Our CPP and SOC Government have often appealed to foreign companies and state enterprises of various countries to invest in our country for mutual benefit. We are in great need of foreign investment. Some foreign companies have signed contracts with our companies. Others have not. This matter is being discussed. In economic relations and foreign investment, we do not take into account foreign policy trends. Many companies have invested in our country and we understand that foreign investment should have similar aims, i.e. mutual benefit. We are convinced that compromising for mutual benefit will be achieved in investment and exploitation. This is our country's strategic goal.

We have also made progress in economic and social development and in other fields for the past nearly 13 years. From now on, these developments will follow that of the Sangkum Reas Niyum era. Samdech Norodom Sihanouk has declared solemnly that the CPP and SOC in their 13-year function have made appropriate and correct progress. We think this will continue in the future.

We have an open-door policy on the economy. This is why foreign companies have made the investment.

[Announcer] Do you think that there should be a public sector to appropriately consider these investments?

[Chea Sim] The CPP and SOC Government have set up a foreign investment committee to examine and negotiate with companies desiring to invest in Cambodia. This committee will discuss and decide on the companies. This is going on right now.

All companies have held discussions and worked with the foreign investment committee. The SOC's National Assembly has also put forth an investment policy to guarantee the investment of all companies. Although this law has not been promulgated, it is a principle, a basis of investment law, to give assurances to companies which have investments in Cambodia. Investments and exploitation contracts have been signed with three or four firms on hotel construction, forestry exploitation, [words indistinct], and others in agricultural production.

[Announcer] Your colleague, His Excellency Hun Sen, has talked about preventing the people from taking action against the Pol Pot group. This will allow the Pol Pot group to be rejected [as heard]. Are there any points you may want to urge the five big powers to think about or to consider in rejecting the Pol Pot group?

[Chea Sim] We are still operating under the framework of the peaceful political solution on Cambodia as this agreement is already in effect. We are implementing this until the elections.

As host, we certainly do not want provocations. We want to maintain calm. Therefore, we have persuaded the public not to stage demonstrations against the Polpotists though they have suffered and have been separated from their relatives and family. Thus, we have to persuade the people from opposing the Polpotists. They want to meet Son Sen to demand for their children and parents. This is their anger and pain. We have made efforts to keep the situation calm. This is to move the political solution the Cambodian problem forward and make the agreement effective.

[Announcer] The Polpotists have a party with a platform. When will you allow them to set up their party in Phnom Penh? Since it is now quite difficult for you to take care of even Son Sen, what difficulties do you expect once they are allowed to do so?

[Chea Sim] As you know, the Polpotist party falls within the framework of the political solution. Two Polpotist representatives are in the SNC. The important point is this matter is related to the general election which will be decided by the people through their right to self-determination. The people will be the ones to elect the party. They can vote for any party they like. The Pol Pot party had caused pain and millions to die in the past. The people are still angry with them.

[Announcer] If you are elected to the National Assembly in the new administrative regime either as a member or chairman, will you push for a law to try the Polpotists?

[Chea Sim] This is the people's request. They are still very angry, particularly with the Polpotist ringleaders. I think by then, the people will demand that the ringleaders be put on trial. We will certainly consider what the people want.

[Announcer] What is your policy on Pol Pot, Ieng Sary, Ta Mok? Will these elements enjoy equal rights with the other people?

[Chea Sim] This will depend on the Cambodian people. They regard the Polpotists' genocide as an unforgettable hatred. We are convinced they will not pardon the ringleaders who are murderers. They will certainly demand that these elements be put on trial.

Defense Ministry Spokesman on Truce Violations

BK2911101191 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1200 GMT 28 Nov 91

["Press Communique" by the Defense Ministry spokesman—date not given; read by announcer]

[Text] Dear ladies, gentlemen, and friends: The Paris accord on Cambodia has been in existence for more than a month. During this period, many major events have taken place: the UN advance mission in Cambodia [UNAMIC] is already in the country and the different UNAMIC's teams are functioning actively according to their specific tasks. Also, Samdech Norodom Sihanouk's successful homecoming was solemnly welcomed. The significant development in Phnom Penh City and the warmest welcome organized by the Cambodian People's Party [CPP] and the State of Cambodia's Government in honor of Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, his consort, and family made the samdech happy, proud, and confident in the CPP's skillful and correct leadership.

The Cambodian people both in Phnom Penh and the rural areas are pleased with the samdech's love for the motherland and peace. They are especially happy with his leadership of Cambodia toward peace and prosperity as other prosperous countries. However, it is extremely regrettable that the relative calm along the border and in some strategic regions turned to become militarily active again last week. Just as our armed forces are striving to maintain tranquillity to make the Paris accords amply effective and the samdech's task to bring about national unification a success, the Polpotist gang has relapsed into the old disease. They have continued to launch onslaughts and to fire artillery shells on the bases and positions of our State of Cambodia's armed forces and are shipping troops and ammunition into areas close to our bases.

According to reliable reports, between 16 and 22 November they committed 24 violations—10 in areas near the border and 14 in the interior, including seven in Siem Reap Province, five in Battambang Province, three in Stung Treng Province, and two in Preah Vihear Province. This does not account for their arrogant and most inhuman activities in Kompong Cham and Kompong Speu Provinces such as robbing the people on Route 4 and so on. Moreover, all of us know that the mine-clearing is one of the most important tasks of the UNAMIC. Yet, the 18th Polpotist division instead has increased the planting of mines on stretches of routes between (Nong Sanam) and Amleang and between (Trapeang Chong) Commune and Amleang in Kompong Speu Province.

Apart from this, between 0400 and 0530 on 18 November, about 500-600 Polpotist troops attacked the Sre Noy region in Siem Reap Province. And at 0800 exactly on the same day—two and half hours later—they began to mount a two-pronged onslaught on the Sre Po area as well. Furthermore, the townships of Banteay Srei and Srei Snam Districts also came under their 105-mm and H-12 cannon bombardment. The Chikreng district is currently under the threat of attack by more than 300 Polpotist troops stationed only 3 km east of the district.

On National Route 10 front in Battambang Province, the Polpotists have not complied with the agreement and have not stayed put. They painstakingly used ground troops and 120-mm and DK-75 to expand territory by violating our areas southwest, west, and northwest of the township of Ratanamondol District. And on 14 November alone, they conducted three operations against the district.

We extremely regret these activities and their ignorance and unawareness of the recent 23 October event. We believe that if they remain indifferent to Samdech Norodom Sihanouk's sentiments toward the Cambodian people's love and aspirations for peace, and his pride over the 12-year development achieved by the State of Cambodia, they should at least understand that the alliance between the CPP and FUNCINPEC [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia] represents the goodwill to promote national unification and to end the armed conflict.

KUFNCD Founding Anniversary Commemorated

Party Directive on Celebration

BK0112092191 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 0430 GMT 30 Nov 91

["Circular of the Cambodian People's Party Central Committee on celebrating the 13th founding anniversary of the Kampuchean National United Front for National Salvation, currently Kampuchean United Front for National Construction and Defense [KUFNCD], 2 December 1978-2 December 1991"; date not given]

[Text] The 13th anniversary of the Kampuchean United Front for National Construction and Defense [KUFNCD] coincides with the time when the nation's great national union force is advancing toward national union to concretely implement various clauses of the Cambodian peace agreement signed at the international conference in Paris on 23 October 1991. It also coincides with the time when the Cambodian People's Party [CPP], the State of Cambodia's Government, and the Cambodian people throughout the country welcome the

homecoming of Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk, chairman of the Cambodian Supreme National Council [SNC], and his wife.

Therefore, the celebration of the KUFNCD's 13th founding anniversary should proceed according to the following essence and aspect:

I. Aim and requirement.

Make people remember and realize the great deeds of the KUFNCD, which has rallied forces; risen up in the struggle to liberate the motherland and saved it from the catastrophe created by the Polpotists from 1975 to 1978; scored an historic victory on 7 January 1979; and started to restore and build the country. This has revived the entire nation and society in every field with people regaining rights and freedom.

Make people clearly understand the national union policy, the stance, and goodwill of the CPP and the State of Cambodia's Government, which have done all they can to create all favorable conditions for Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk, and most loyally followed the latter in his noble mission in the interest of the nation and motherland.

Through this, make people realize the truth concerning the samdech, the party, and our State of Cambodia's Government. Therefore, the people should be made to realize the truth in the statement by the party and the State of Cambodia's Government recognizing Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk as legitimate and rightful head of state of the entire Cambodia, the way he was before the 18 March 1970 coup d'etat until the forthcoming free, correct, and just elections to elect the Cambodian president in 1993.

Make the people and masses realize the historic goal of the cooperation and alliance between the CPP and the FUNCINPEC [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia] for the noble cause, namely national reconciliation, peace, democracy, and national construction. Make the people and masses realize and understand the spirit of great national union to increase unity among all strata of the people and masses, workers, peasants, male and female combatants, intellectuals, monks, elderly persons, ethnic groups and rally them within the front's ranks around the CPP to implement the CPP's political platform, absolutely prevent the return of the danger of the past, and support all the samdech's activities to serve national reconciliation interests, and consider the samdech as the father of the nation as well as our CPP.

II. Organizational aspects.

1. Get-togethers should be widely organized in various central ministries and services and in the provinces, cities, districts, wards, army units, factories, enterprises, agricultural stations, schools, people's groups, and in monasteries, mosques, and churches.

2. Meetings should be organized in Phnom Penh City, provinces, and cities ensuring format and political essence, thrift, and safety. Seminars should be organized in higher educational establishments and various institutes in Phnom Penh City. The national propaganda network should have articles for in-depth dissemination to welcome the front's founding anniversary praising the heroism and the work of the front's mass movements for the cause of the nation and motherland.

3. After implementing the circular, all levels of the front and unit should report to the front's national council, which will sum up the results and report them to the party Central Committee.

Slogans: 1. Welcome the 13th founding anniversary of the KUFNCD;

2. Long live the spirit of 2 December!
3. Welcome the 23 October 1991 Paris peace agreement!
4. Long live the glorious CPP!
5. Long live the glorious State of Cambodia!
6. Long live democracy in Cambodia!
7. Long live the great national union force!
8. Long live peace and national reconciliation!
9. Long live the samdech euv [Sihanouk's popular title]'s royal mission to unite the nation!
10. Long live the glorious Angkor motherland!
11. Absolutely oppose the recurrence of the danger from the past.

Editorial Marks Anniversary

BK0212110391 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 2300 GMT 1 Dec 91

[PRACHEACHON editorial, date not given: "Consolidate the Great National Union, Jointly Strive For Quick Development of the Motherland"]

[Text] The date of 2 December 1991 is the 13th founding anniversary of the Kampuchean United Front for National Construction and Defense [KUFNCD]. It is the 13th anniversary of the rebirth of the Cambodian land and people and a new victory of the 2 December spirit because Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk and his royal consort have come to stay forever with their children.

The date of 2 December has provided something special for all Cambodian people, giving them a second life and bringing them happiness and family reunion.

Today, the Cambodian people everywhere are acclaiming and expressing their most sincere respects and gratitude to the Cambodian People's Party [CPP] and the Government of the State of Cambodia [SOC] for creating this noble spirit of 2 December.

The barbarous regime which lasted for three years, eight months, and 20 days trampled upon the people's rights and freedoms and forced them to live a miserable life in a prison without walls, massacring 3,314,768 of them.

Cultural traditions, social customs, and religious beliefs, which are the soul of the Cambodian nation, were all ruined. But thanks to the 2 December spirit, the Kampuchean National United Front for National Salvation, presently the KUFNCD, was born, and it issued an 11-point statement. This statement was a most effective appeal, that rallied the forces of the masses and people throughout the country to rise up and wage a vigorous struggle—like a torrential current—to topple the barbarous Pol Pot-Ieng Sary regime, thus winning the historic victory of 7 January 1979.

During the past 13 years, under the wise leadership of the CPP, the SOC Government, pursuing a correct and clear-sighted line, has put forth successive policies in line with each stage of development in the country. The six-point clemency policy and policies regarding the peasantry, intellectuals, nationalities, religious beliefs, national reconciliation, economic expansion, and allotment of land title and house ownership to the people have been vigorously welcomed and supported by the people, who have joined hands to forge a great national united movement which has jointly striven to defend and build the country and sucessfully improve the life of the people.

During these 13 years, although the country has been faced with both war and peace, while striving to defend the country and improve their livelihood, our Cambodian people rebuilt and developed the country from scratch to the point that now our life has been stabilized. Hospitals, schools, monasteries, customs, and religious beliefs have all been either restored or rebuilt.

On the diplomatic field, in line with the national reconciliation policy issued on 27 August 1989, the CPP and the SOC Government, after striving for several years to surmount all the complex difficulties, have achieved success through the signing of the Paris agreement for peace in Cambodia on 23 October 1991.

Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk and his royal consort, the father and mother of our national reconciliation, and the royal family have returned to the motherland. The CPP and the FUNCINPEC [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia] have signed an alliance with each other.

All these things constitute a big success for the national reconciliation policy, which is the 2 December spirit and the fervent aspiration of the Cambodian people throughout the country, who desire to rally behind the great national union for the defense and development of the country and the improvement of the people's livelihood.

On this 13th anniversary of the KUFNCD on 2 December 1991, the Cambodian people throughout the country join in celebrating this auspicious day and wish the 2 December spirit to live eternally in the heart of every Cambodian.

The Cambodian people, under the wise leadership of the CPP, the SOC Government, and the KUFNCD National Council pledge to thoroughly and most sincerely implement the CPP's political program and the Paris agreement on peace in Cambodia dated 23 October 1991 so as to consolidate the great national union and jointly strive to develop the Land of Angkor, and quickly make it prosperous and plentiful.

Ministry Gives Guidance on Trade Activities

BK0212102391 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT 1 Dec 91

[Text] In accordance with the communique of the Council of Ministers No 2074, dated 13 November 1991, and in order to create favorable conditions for the circulation of the people's foodstuff and agricultural products in the country in conformity with the political platform of the Cambodian People's Party—which stipulates the implementation of a free market policy, including the right of the people to manage their products—the Trade Ministry would like to provide the following guidance:

1. In the past, departments under the Trade Ministry sold rice to the armed forces at a subsidized price of 2.5 riels with the difference being paid by the Finance Ministry. From 1 January 1992, departments under the Trade Ministry, like [words indistinct] sell rice to the armed forces at the free market price; there is no need to add extra charges. Therefore, the armed forces should set aside a budget according to the free market price to buy rice for their needs.

The Cambodian foodstuff company should forward a budget request to the Finance Ministry for buying paddy, rice, [words indistinct], and prepare a plan to get a bank loan or [words indistinct] in order to buy paddy and rice for their needs.

2. In the past, the state set the price for buying paddy and rice. Starting from 1991-92, the state will no longer set the price for buying paddy and rice from the people and for selling paddy and rice from one unit to another. The price will be agreed among sellers and buyers with the state no longer being responsible for (?losses) and subsidy.

Therefore, units should make careful estimates, based on the principle of buying and selling, and set appropriate prices.

3. The implementation of the free market economy means that the people have the right to circulate and manage their goods freely inside the country. No units or individuals have the right to obstruct this circulation. Along with this, the state manages imports and exports taxes, patents, and other services.

Therefore, from the 1991-92 season onwards, the state will no longer issue quotas to provinces and cities for buying paddy and rice. State units should make efforts to buy these products in accordance with their own capital or use capital from other sources which are accessible to them for their operations in the country. Paddy and rice export is the domain of the Trade Ministry and the Cambodian foofdstuff company.

If necessary, units in provinces and cities can cooperate with the Cambodian foodstuff company to get funds for buying and selling goods.

4. In the past, the state controlled wholesale and retail selling and buying activities. This was appropriate for the circumstances at the time. But now, in order to ensure that economic potential is increased, the state will be in charge of wholesale activities only, leaving the retail sector to traders in general.

5. To protect the interests of peasants, the Council of Ministers has set up a committee to maintain the prices of peasants' agricultural products in order to avoid the unreasonable lowering of agricultural products. This committee will not set prices for traders; its task is to control buying and selling activities of state and private companies and study and conduct research on the implementation of the policy to maintain the prices of foodstuff, agricultural products, and rubber to ensure appropriate prices for peasants.

The Trade Ministry hopes that provinces, cities, and companies will implement this guidance and achieve high efficiency.

Indonesia

Foreign Minister Alatas Discusses Timor Events

LD2911140891 London ITV Television Network in English 1900 GMT 28 Nov 91

[Interview with Indonesian Foreign Minister Ali Alatas in Venezuela by correspondent Jon Snow in London on 28 November; from the "Channel 4 News" program—recorded]

[Text] [Snow] I've been talking to the Indonesian Foreign Minister Ali Alatas on the line from Venezuela where he's attending an international conference. I suggested to him that world opinion, now, demanded an international inquiry into the massacre in East Timor, rather than Jakarta's own commission.

[Alatas] We believe that this commission will be given the opportunity to do its work and have its findings. At this stage, I think that that is what we are going to try to do.

[Snow] Internationally, Indonesia has never really been trusted when it comes to dealings with East Timor. Surely the problem is that the international community needs to be able to find out for itself what has happened in East Timor.

[Alatas] You say that we cannot be trusted on events in East Timor. Well, I will try to answer it as composedly as I can. It doesn't go very far, as far as facts are concerned. The international community has had access to East Timor, freely, especially in the last few years.

[Snow] Will you accept the plea of the International Red Cross [ICRC] that they be allowed to inspect the bodies of those who died in the massacre?

[Alatas] Mr. Snow, the ICRC has a full-fledged office in Dili manned by several people....

[Snow, interrupting] Having an office is not the same as having access to the bodies and to the wounded.

[Alatas] Would you allow me to finish my sentence? Is this an inquisition or an interview? ICRC has an office in Jakarta and has a full-fledged office in Dili. They are in continuous hour-long contact with our authorities, they've been to the hospitals, they've been given access, and they will continue to be given access.

[Snow] You see, foreign minister, the aid agencies that one talks to about East Timor, the people who have been there and come back, tell us that there is a climate of fear and intimidation.

[Alatas] I believe there is a rather one-sided depiction of the whole situation. With whom did they talk? Because they've talked to scores of people, we have always opened the possibility for interviews, ICRC has been working there constantly as it has been working in other parts of Indonesia [sentence as heard]. Now, let me put one thing straight: A very tragic and unfortunate incident has happened in East Timor which, as far as we are concerned, is a very serious setback to all that we have tried to do over the years. We have expressed our deep regret about the situation, we have immediately instituted an independent commission of inquiry, and we have tried to say to the press: Please report it in a balanced way, it's bad enough—the situation is already bad enough, why do you put in all kinds of exaggerated and unverified reports into the press that will help no one's course?

[Snow] Will you guarantee that there will be punishment of those who were responsible?

[Alatas] We, as a government, at this date cannot guarantee anything until the commission of inquiry has made its findings. All we can say, all we can guarantee, is that the commission is totally independent. That means including independent from what the government thinks. Isn't that how an independent commission works?

[Snow] Mr. Foreign Minister, Indonesian troops fire on unarmed demonstrators. You can, surely, at least tell us that if anybody has done wrong in this matter, they will be punished?

[Alatas] Certainly. That is what we have said on public record several times.

[Snow] Let me ask you, as a very final question, foreign minister, we understand that there are still reports coming out of East Timor of further killings and of further trouble involving clashes between Indonesian troops and the Timorese people themselves.

[Alatas] The situation in East Timor is calm now. It has been categorically denied, from Jakarta, that such killings have taken place. Furthermore, I think that it is a ridiculous piece of information. I can categorically deny, now, that these things are taking place. What has happened is now that I think we ought to give the commission of inquiry, which is going to fly to East Timor this coming Thursday, the time to sort out the true facts to find out what has really happened.

UN To Conduct Own Probe of Dili Shootings

BK2911130191 Hong Kong AFP in English 1211 GMT 29 Nov 91

[By Pascal Mallet]

[Text] Jakarta, Nov 29 (AFP)—Indonesia is under increasing pressure to answer fully for the bloody November 12 massacre in East Timor, following interventions by the United Nations and the country's Roman Catholic Church.

On Thursday, the same day that a commission named by Jakarta to carry out an in-depth inquiry into the shooting arrived in the East Timorese capital of Dili, U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar said the world body wanted to carry out its own investigation.

Diplomatic sources said the U.N. decision followed an approach by the European Community almost two weeks ago.

The shooting occurred outside a cemetery in the East Timorese capital of Dili, where a crowd had formed for a memorial service for a man killed in an earlier disturbance.

The sources said Portugal, which takes over the EC presidency for six months beginning in January, pushed for the initiative. Portugal is the former colonial power in East Timor, which Indonesia unilaterally annexed in 1976.

Another sign that the international outcry is taking a new course came when Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez brought up the massacre with Indonesian President Suharto during his visit to Caracas for a South-South summit.

Wednesday, Australian Prime Minister Bob Hawke said his government would not accept a whitewash from the inquiry named by Suharto. The same day, Indonesian armed forces chief General Try Sutrisno told a parliamentary commission that the crowd fired on by his soldiers was "an unruly and brutal mob."

But despite the government's claims, it is faced at home with unprecedented criticisms by the Roman Catholic Church.

In a statement released Friday, the Roman Catholic Bishops' Conference of Indonesia, for the first time in the country's recent history, clearly blamed the military and questioned the government's version of events.

The government has said troops were forced to fire on a threatening crowd in Dili, killing 19 people, including a New Zealand social worker. But witnesses have said they fired in cold blood, killing between 72 and 115 people.

"We really deplore that because of the actions of a group of ABRI (the Indonesian armed forces), the moral integrity, the dignity and credibility of the nation have been put into jeopardy in the eyes of the world as well as our own country," the bishops' statement said.

The East Timorese clergy is linked directly to the Vatican, and is not dependent on the country's Catholic church.

Approximately 90 percent of East Timor's 740,000 people are Catholics—the same percentage that Moslems account for in Indonesia as a whole.

Yet the country's Catholic community, although only five percent of the total population, has considerable influence because of their preponderance in the eastern islands and their large representation in the country's powerful ethnic Chinese business community.

The bishops' conference noted that it has sent two delegations to East Timor and that they have complained that the army was continuing to prevent residents of Dili from visiting the wounded in the military hospital, thereby making it impossible for them to know for certain who was killed.

The government's seven-member inquiry arrived Thursday in Dili and held several hours of meetings, notably with Governor Mario Viegas Carrascalao, Dili's mayor and Bishop Carlos Ximenes Belo.

The inquiry includes six government officials, including two retired generals and a rear admiral, and an East Timorese deputy in the national parliament.

Foreign Minister Questions Reported UN Probe

BK3011101491 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0827 GMT 30 Nov 91

[Text] Caracas, Nov 30 (ANTARA)—Indonesian Foreign Minister Ali Alatas said here Friday he still questioned the truth of a media report from Paris that United Nations Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar would send a U.N. mission to Dili, East Timor, to investigate the recent incident in the capital of the former Portuguese colony.

He told Indonesian journalists following the conclusion of the summit of the group of 15 developing countries

(G-15) in the Venezuelan capital that even the Indonesian staffers at the United Nations Headquarters in New York also said they never heard of such intention.

Alatas suspected that the press had misquoted the U.N. secretary general's statement, because the dispatch of a U.N. mission to a member country should first have the approval of the country concerned, and the sending must be carried out through a mechanism of the world body.

Indonesia, he asserted, has never been contacted by the U.N. secretary general within this context.

Meanwhile, Minister-State Secretary Murdiono, who was also present in the meeting with the press, said as far as the Indonesian Government was concerned, it was only waiting for the result of the National Investigation Commission (KPN)'s probe of the Dili incident.

Asked by AFP [AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE] whether the U.N. were planning a probe into the November 12 incident, Perez de Cuellar who was in Paris for talks with French President Franscois Mitterrand replied, "Yes, yes."

Ministry Confirms UN Letter Not Received

BK0212103291 Jakarta ANTARA in English 1003 GMT 2 Dec 91

[Text] Jakarta, Dec 2 (OANA/ANTARA)—The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has not yet received any official notification from the United Nations on its plan to send an enquiry mission to East Timor in connection with the November 12 incident in Dili.

Director of Foreign Affairs section of the Foreign Ministry Suteja Kartawijaya said here on Monday that if it is true that the secretary-general of the United Nations will send a delegation to Indonesia as a mere visit, it could be acceptable but if it wants to discuss the sending of an enquiry team to East Timor, then the problem is different.

There must be a certain procedure if the UN is to send an enquiry team to the province, he said.

"Firstly, there should be approval from the Indonesian side and secondly, UN Secretary-General Javier Peres de Cuellar should follow the UN procedure," he added.

De Cuellar was reported to have sent a delegation to Indonesia on November 30, to negotiate the conditions for the visit of a UN mission to investigate the November 12 incident.

The UN secretary general told Western press about this after a meeting with Portuguese President Mario Soares in Lisbon.

Bishops Criticize Military Over Dili Shootings

BK2911060591 Hong Kong AFP in English 0555 GMT 29 Nov 91

[By Bhimanto Suwastoyo]

[Text] Jakarta, Nov 29 (AFP)—The Roman Catholic Bishops' Conference of Indonesia (KWI) has criticized the actions of Indonesian soldiers during the recent bloody shooting in East Timor.

"We really deplore that because of the actions of a group of ABRI (the Indonesian armed forces), the moral integrity, the dignity and credibility of the nation have been put into jeopardy in the eyes of the world as well as our own country," a KWI statement obtained Friday said.

The statement by the highest authority on Roman Catholic affairs in Indonesia referred to the November 12 incident when according to the Indonesian authorities 19 people died after troops fired in self-defence into an attacking mob at the Santa Cruz cemetery in Dili, East Timor.

Other versions, including those of witnesses, said the troops shot into a crowd attending a memorial service at the cemetery, killing up to 115 people.

"Feeling the necessity to give attention to and consider the feelings and what remains alive among the people of East Timor, especially in Dili," KWI has since sent two separate delegations to East Timor, the statement said.

During the visit in East Timor, whose diocese does not depend on KWI but directly on the Vatican, KWI delegates obtained reports from witnesses of the incident.

"The news that circulates, besides containing reports on data which are very different from what we officially have, also added new information," the KWI statement said.

It cited uncertainty among many East Timorese on the fate of their relatives or friends because they were not allowed to visit the wounded at the military hospital in Dili, and uncertainty over the death toll and where the bodies were buried.

It also cited reports that many members of the armed forces had guarded the crowd's procession well and even that some troop members had tried to stop their colleagues from shooting during the incident.

"The most pressing thing to be done now... is to restore the feeling of safety and trust of the people towards the government," said KWI.

It called for an objective inquiry into the incident by the National Investigative Committee (KPN) set up by President Suharto last week.

The seven members of the KPN left for Dili on Thursday on a fact- finding mission and met with the local governor, press reports said here Friday.

KWI called on all sides to help the KPN "by creating an atmosphere where people feel free to tell what they know and guarantee their safety."

It also said that should any member of the clergy be found to be guilty of involvement in the incident, the person should be punished just as anyone else but stressed that the church stood above politics.

A crowd had left the Motael church in Dili to join others at the front of the Santa Cruz cemetery before the shooting. The Motael church was also the scene of an incident in late October in which two youths died under mysterious circumstances.

A pastoral letter by East Timor Bishop Carlos Felipe Ximenes Belo dated November 22 was also attached to the KWI statement.

Belo's letter expressed his objections to the use of religious activities or buildings for political purposes, and called on people not to involve members of the clergy in their socio-political activities.

The Indonesian military have said that anti-Indonesian elements used the church in East Timor for their activities.

Indonesia annexed East Timor in 1976, but the United Nations still regards Portugal as the territory's administrator.

Investigators Satisfied With Bishops' Report

BK2911142291 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 1200 GMT 29 Nov 91

[Text] Jaelani, the chairman of a national investigative commission, has expressed satisfaction over the explanation given by Dili Bishop Carlos Filipe Ximenes Belo on the incident [the earlier shooting of civilian protesters in Dili, East Timor].

Speaking to newsmen in Dili, East Timor, Jaelani reiterated that the detailed explanation obtained from the Dili bishop cannot be made public because it is still being studied.

Earlier, on 22 November 1991, the Dili bishop issued a pastoral letter expressing opposition to the use of a church for political activities. The pastoral note also called on all Catholics to make a clear differentiation between spiritual and political activities. The Dili bishop, Ximenes Belo, has called on the East Timorese not to use places of worship to make protests.

Governor Hands Over Documents To Investigators

BK0112071691 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0542 GMT 1 Dec 91

[Text] Dili, Nov 30 (OANA/ANTARA)—East Timor Governor Mario Viegas Carrascalao late on Saturday submitted 300 pages of documents plus six photographs on the Dili incident of November 12 to the National Investigation Commission (KPN) formed by President Suharto to inquire into the tragedy.

The materials were formally received by KPN Chairman Supreme Judge M. Jaelani SH who afterward commented that the set of documents would be valuable for the KPN in the execution of its duty.

Carascalao told journalists the documents proper consists only of 80 pages while the rest serves only as attachments which contain "The secrets of three provinces" (without revealing the names of the provinces)

The photographs, he noted, were taken during the heat of the bloody incident which left 19 dead and 91 injured.

With the documents and photographs, according to him, he had given all that he had about the incident.

East Timor Official Says 26 Still Detained

BK0112071291 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0542 GMT 1 Dec 91

[Text] Dili, Dec. 1 (OANA/ANTARA)—Head of East Timor high prosecutor office Bennyto Bya disclosed here on Saturday that only around 26 suspects are now still detained for their involvement in November 12 Dili incident leaving 19 killed and 91 wounded.

Bennyto told ANTARA here that eight local prosecutor officers and three prosecutors from Jakarta in cooperation with Dili police and military prosecutor are now still investigating the incident.

Officials and prosecutor officers involved in the investigation of Dili incident, he said, are carefully making selection and assessment of the involvement of the suspects in the incident.

He said the effort to seek solution to the Dili incident is carefully carried out in order to maintain its legal procedures accordingly. Therefore, only 26 of 200 suspects previously detained are at present still under detention.

"Some of them have been proven involved in the subversion activity, while the others only committed actions against the law such riots classified as crimes", [as received] the chief prosecutor office said.

Based on tentative investigation findings, he said, a series of demonstrations and actions against members of the armed forces were believed to have connection at home and abroad.

Bennyto disclosed that some suspects have also admitted that funds used to launch the activities were received from several domestic companies and foreign financial assistance.

Bennyto further said that November 12 Dili incident, which drew reactions from several countries, should be deplored since the incident in fact has been planned previously.

He was of the opinion that regional problems should be solved thoroughly, not partially or sector by sector so that all aspirations could be accommodated and the solution of the problem should be based on consultations.

Bennyto also viewed that partial approaches are often less effective in solving problems.

Therefore, he said, deliberations towards a consensus should become a guidance for the local administration to deal with problems.

Government Detains Timorese Students in Bali

BK0212041691 Hong Kong AFP in English 0353 GMT 2 Dec 91

[Text] JAKARTA, Dec 2 (AFP)—Police have detained six East Timorese students during a raid on the Indonesian tourist island of Bali, the BERITA BUANA daily said here Monday.

BUANA quoted an unnamed source as saying six East Timorese students from Udayana University in Denpasar, Bali, were detained for questioning following a raid on a house Sunday.

Police were said to have found several anti-government leaflets, three flags of the East Timorese pro-independence movement Fretilin and a South Korean-made hand grenade in the house.

Bali military spokesman Lieutnant Colonel Anton Tampudong confirmed the raid and the detention without saying why the incident had taken place. The six are being questioned, he said.

Tampudong declined to give details of the items confiscated from the house, but said, "what is certain is that they were holding things which students should not have."

Indonesian military authorities have said that many East Timorese youth have been manipulated by the Fretilin, including those involved in the bloody November 12 shooting in Dili, East Timor.

Authorities say troops shot in self defence at an attacking mob during a demonstration in Dili, killing 19. Other sources, including witnesses, have said troops shot into a mourning procession and killed more than 100 people.

Some 70 East Timorese youths and students were detained in Jakarta in November after demonstrating to demand self-determination for the people in their region which the Indonesian Government annexed and unilaterally declared its 27th province in 1976.

The United Nations still views Portugal, which colonized East Timor for more than four centuries until 1975, as the administrator of the territory.

A total of 49 of the 70 detained in Jakarta have been released, but 21 are still being held for questioning, authorities here have said, adding that they could face subversion charges.

Timor Youth Committee Condemns Dili Incident

BK0212015691 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0000 GMT 2 Dec 91

[Text] The East Timor Regional Executive Council of the Indonesian National Youth Committee issued a statement in Dili yesterday criticizing those who masterminded the bloody incident that took place at the Santa Cruz cemetery in Dili on 12 November. Jose Gaspar Pidade, chairman of the East Timor Regional Executive Council of the Indonesian National Youth Committee, told newsmen he deeply regretted the incident at the Santa Cruz cemetery where 19 persons were killed and 91 others injured.

The East Timor Regional Executive Council called on the government to take stern action against the culprits if the National Investigation Commission identified those involved in the incident. All sides—the regional administration, the Armed Forces of the Republic of Indonesia, and religious and community leaders—were urged to assist the National Investigation Commission in finding facts pertaining to the incident.

In the statement, the East Timor Regional Executive Council of the Indonesian National Youth Committee called on all youths in the region to remain calm and avoid any misleading issues. The council also protested the tearing and burning of the red and white national flag in Australia and condemned the unfriendly action of irresponsible persons in tarnishing Indonesia's reputation at international forums.

Meanwhile, THE ASIAN WALL STREET JOURNAL reported in its 25 November edition that the Community Aid Abroad or CAA, an Australian social body dominated by the Australian left-wingers, has since the 1970's masterminded demonstrations and activities opposing the incorporation of East Timor into Indonesia. The CAA also supports the activities of East Timor fugitives, including the escape of Ramos Horta to Australia. Several leaders contacted by ANTARA said that there were grounds to suspect the CAA's involvement in the 12 November incident in Dili. They supported the need for a more intensive investigation into the CAA's involvement and called for a ban on its activities in Indonesian territory.

Laos

National Day Greetings Sent by President Bush

BK0212014891 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 2 Dec 91

[Text] U.S. President George Bush has sent greetings to President Kaysone Phomvihan on Laos' national day.

The message says: I, on behalf of the government and people of the United States of America, extend greetings and best wishes to you and the Lao Government and people on your 16th national day. The agreement reached by our two governments to fully normalize relations reflects the great progress we have accomplished in the past years in a bid to solve major humanitarian problems. I hope we will continue our efforts to further develop and strengthen relations between our countries.

On the same occasion, Phoun Sipaseut, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, also received a greetings message from U.S. Secretary of State James Baker.

Army Instructions for National Day Celebration

BK2911062791 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0430 GMT 28 Nov 91

[Instruction issued by the General Political Department of the Lao People's Army on the organization of the 16th anniversary celebration of the 2 December National Day to party organizations and command headquarters, offices, organizations, and units of regular and regional armed forces nationwide]

[Text] The 16th anniversary of the 2 December National Day will soon come as the entire party, army, and people are organizing the implementation of the fifth party congress resolutions. In order to organize a meaningful celebration of the historic day of the nation, the General Political Department issues the following recommendations:

1. Objectives

To enable cadres and combatants to understand the great victories achieved under the capable leadership of the party and management of the state and the differences between the old and new regimes.

To accurately assess the achievements and victories in fulfilling the tasks of defending and building the countries in the past 16 years.

To realize difficulties and obstacles which must be resolutely overcome.

To mobilize the movements for the implementation of the resolutions on national defense and maintenance of peace and order.

To participate in the movements for economic, cultural, and social development.

To enhance the sense of combat readiness to foil all subversive schemes of the enemies, especially their tricks to make change through peaceful means.

To further strengthen military units and organizations.

To launch emulation campaigns to accumulate achievements in anticipation of the upcoming 43d founding anniversary of the armed forces.

2. Direction

The celebration must be organized in a compact and thorough manner by placing more emphasis on the objectives than the forms of the celebration. Big rallies are not allowed. Ceremonies must be organized within units to propagate the past achievements as well as to boost morale of unit members. Units and premises must be decorated. The celebration must include reviewing the past year's achievements and praising those who worked diligently. Feasts may be organized in accordance with the food ration rates approved by the higher echelons. However, lavishness is prohibited.

3. The Method of Organizing the Implementation

Meetings of cadres must be convened to clearly distribute responsibilities in making preparations, e.g. the objectives and procedure of the celebration. Units with large number of new combatants must exert more efforts to enable them to see the past achievements and understand their work plan and regulations. The past year's operation work must be reviewed. Its advantages, weaknesses, and their causes must be assessed, as well as remaining problems. Attention must be paid to the implementation of the party's and state's plans and policies, regulations, laws, resolutions, orders of high echelons, and unit plans and the efforts to counter the multifaceted destructive war of enemies, especially their schemes to affect changes through peaceful means. In addition to the propagation of our revolutionary victories under the party's leadership, classes must be organized for our cadres and combatants to study ideological documents and improper lines of thinking and practices in units. At the same time, consultations must be held to work out the ideological plans for platoons, squadrons, companies, battalions, organizations, and offices. Responsibilities must be distributed among cadres to implement the said plans, organize sports activities and dancing and singing contests, as conditions in localities permit, so as to create a festive and cheerful atmosphere.

4. Some Problems Worthy of Attention

The celebration of the event must incorporate the sense of vigilance and combat readiness so as to foil all subversive schemes of enemies in a timely manner. Units must be firmly secure both in terms of personnel and equipment. Alcohol consumption and other forms of intoxication must be avoided because they can impair our revolutionary ethics. Combat posts must be staffed so as to cope with any eventuality. Short emulation campaigns must be organized to accumulate achievements in anticipation of the upcoming 43d founding anniversary of the army. A day off is allowed. As for units which are unable to organize the celebration in time, they can delay the celebration but not later than 5 December 1991. There is not much time for study classes to be held in connection with this event. However, they must not take too much time or drag on. The results of the National Day celebration must be reported to the General Political Department.

5. Slogans

Wholeheartedly acclaim the great, comprehensive, and firm successes and victories accomplished by our entire party, army, and people in the past 16 years!
Truly go down to the grass roots and be determined to translate the renovation line of the party to reality in order to march forward to win yet new greater victories and build the all-round strong units!
Long live the Lao People's Democratic Republic!
Long live the honorable and majestic Lao People's Revolutionary Party!
Long live the spirit of the 2 December National Day!

Vientiane, 20 November 1991
The Army General Political Department
[Signed] Lieutenant General Osakan Thammatheva

People Urged To Fulfill Tasks for National Day

BK2611155191 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 23 Nov 91

[23 November PASASON editorial: "Strive To Fulfill the Annual Plan To Score Achievements To Welcome 2 December National Day"]

[Text] The 16th anniversary of the establishment of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR], 2 December, which is regarded as a great festival of our nation, is coming near. On this great national festival, each service and each production base in each locality will commemorate the fine traditions of this historic day—the day that marked the beginning of the new era of revolution. All branches and localities will also take this grand occasion to review the achievements and victories they have won in the past, particularly those achievements and victories won over the past year. At the same time, they will examine shortcomings and remaining points and then discuss ways and means to settle them in order to fulfill all tasks according to plan so as to record achievements to welcome the forthcoming National Day.

To guarantee that the national festival day of this year is celebrated in an atmosphere full of profound content and in a significant manner, the celebration must be organized in an appropriate form under practical conditions of each locality. It must be held in a simple and orderly way. An emphasis must be put on content, the maintenance of unity and unanimity in line of thinking and action, the guaranteeing of public security, and the practicing of thrift. In reviewing the past work, attention must be paid to pointing out the achievements, basic good points, and new aspects. In addition, useful, vital lessons that can be proved through concrete figures and that are suitable to their respective roles, responsibilities, and political tasks must be reviewed and learned. Potentials and primitive factors must be exploited and then promoted and developed fruitfully. Along with this, good or weak points as well as remaining problems and their basic causes must be brought to everyone's attention. Being aware of those weak points and remaining problems, everyone must heighten a spirit of responsibility and then determinedly settle the problems. On this basis, directions and plans for subsequent years must be adopted.

In reviewing the achievements, various services and localities must concentrate on encouraging and vigorously launching emulation campaigns in an enthusiastic, continual, and effective manner, and must engage in labor in an industrious and creative spirit to serve the requirements of the political tasks in a timely manner in the new stage. They must also concentrate on normalizing and gradually improving the material and cultural life of cadres, state employees, and multiethnic people. In addition, they must continue to effectively carry out political and ideological work among the entire party, army, and people. In particular, they must concentrate on publicizing the resolution of the fifth party congress, laws, the Constitution, and various state decrees. The purpose is to enable the cadres, state employees, combatants, and people of all strata to clearly understand and correctly implement the direction, plans, and policies of our party and state; uphold the patriotic spirit and fine revolutionary tradition of the nation; further perform national defense and public security work; and accelerate the task of turning to the grass roots to build all-round strong grass roots in accordance with the direction of rural development.

The urgent thing that must be fulfilled to welcome the 2 December historic day in this stage is that each locality must pay attention to encouraging the harvesting of the main rice crops during the season. Farmers must be encouraged to prepare necessary tools to do dry-season rice farming and plant other subsidiary crops during the season in order to reduce difficulties and shortages, and to do away with needy circumstances arising from natural disasters. A guarantee must be made to have the production work and work of other fields normally and effectively carried out.

In all state, private, and collective factories or plants as well as in various production and business units, emulation campaigns must be effectively launched to expand economic production. They must take the initiative to fulfill obligations toward the state by contributing revenues to the state budget in accordance with the expected amount and in a timely manner. As for the executive apparatuses, they must also strive to fulfill, with high efficiency, their respective specialized tasks. They must make full use of working hours to perform their duties in an energetic manner. Only by so doing can the atmosphere for celebration of the 2 December National Day this year be filled with profound content and significance and be worthy of being a great national tradition, to create a basis for us to march forward to new achievements and new victories in the years to come.

Oil, Natural Gas Survey Underway in Savannakhet

BK2911062691 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 1200 GMT 25 Nov 91

[Text] Since early October this year, the (?Oil Enterprise Company) and the British Gas Company began the second stage of the ground survey for oil and natrual gas deposits in Savannakhet Province. The survey covering a distance of more than 600 kilometers has been 50 percent completed, including the areas along Highway No. 12 from Pathoumphon District to the Se Bang Fai bridge and from Seno to Lakhon Pheng. The survey was also conducted along Highway No. 9 from Seno to Sepon which is the last stage of the survey route.

According to the experts of the said enterprises, if the survey becomes fruitful, the exploitation of the deposits will be carried out in the next two years.

Medals Awarded to Chinese TV Company, Experts

BK2811134491 Vientiane KPL in English 0916 GMT 28 May 91

[Text] Vientiane, Nov 28 (KPL)—Minister of Information and Culture Mr. Mounkeo Olaboun, on behalf of the Lao Government yesterday presented here a friendship medal to a Chinese radio and television equipment company, and three third class labor medals to three Chinese TV experts for their contribution in building a TV relay system to receive transmission from Chinese television.

Built with the Chinese Government's assistance, the TV reception system was recently handed over to the Lao Government.

Vietnamese Front Delegation Visits Savannakhet

BK2711150491 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 1200 GMT 25 Nov 91

[Text] A delegation of the Vietnam Fatherland Front [VFF] from Quang Tri Province of the SRV led by (Houa Pong), vice chairman of the VFF chapter of the said province, concluded its three-day visit to Savannakhet Province on the morning of 24 November. During the visit the delegation held consultations with the Lao side on the improvement of relations between the Lao and Vietnamese peoples along the common border as well as the further strengthening of relations between the two provinces.

The VFF delegation's visit was made at the invitation of the Lao Front for National Construction, Savannakhet Province chapter.

Sixteen Years' Defense, Development Work Viewed

BK0112120391 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 1 Dec 91

[Unattributed article: "Sixteen Years of National Defense and Development Work in the Lao People's Democratic Republic"]

[Text] Beloved listeners, looking back at the historic event of our nation 16 years ago, we, all multiethnic Lao people, vividly remember that at that time the people of the world were thrilled by the resounding clamour of the uprising staged by our people under the leadership of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party [LPRP] aimed at seizing administrative power and victoriously dismantling the ruling yoke of the imperialists and feudalists. Shortly after that, we proceeded to establish the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR] on 2 December 1975, thus opening a new era for our country—the era of independence, freedom, and prosperity.

Over the past 16 years, we have relentlessly encountered successive trials as the situation has been rapidly changing. The changing situation has continually been dramatic, fierce, uncompromising, dangerous, and complex, caused by both internal and external factors. The most difficult problem initially faced by our people was that our national development began from the natural, seminatural, and subsistent economy, the standard of which remained very low. It can be said that we totally lacked both material and technical foundations. Compared to other developed countries, our economy at that time lagged far behind. Nonetheless, we were resolved to continue marching forward in order to utilize progressive and modern technical and scientific methods in a transformation of the natural and seminatural economy into a goods economy. In the meantime, certain bad elements who were hostile to, and bent on sabotaging, our new regime never abandoned their designs to subvert and destroy our country in all fields by creating divisions among the multiethnic Lao people, undermining our solidarity with the international community, and weakening our status. Thanks to the correct political line and the clear-sighted and creative leadership of our party and with the lofty tradition of patriotism, the close unity among the multiethnic Lao people, and the commendable contributions made by the people of all strata in our society to the national defense and economic construction, and with international assistance, we have managed to win many great victories and to securely safeguard the fruits of the revolution.

Numerous practical activities carried out by our people in the past 16 years—the effect of the new thinking—clearly indicate that the party's domestic and foreign policies have now become more open. The people's democratic freedom and right to mastery have been vigorously promoted and enhanced in every area of the social life in our country. The multiethic Lao people have lived together in harmony with a sense of profound unity and affection. They have taken the initiative in performing their work and maintaining their livelihood in a creative fashion. They have become energetic in engaging in business production, and have fully exercised their democratic rights by electing their own representatives in the elections for the people's councils, administrative committees, and mass organizations at all levels. The Supreme People's Assembly recently endorsed the first constitution and many laws for the LPDR, thus reaffirming our national independence in the political, economic, and social fields and the Lao people's rights and obligations toward their country. The creation of the state apparatuses as genuine forces of the people, by the people, and for the people to operate within the bounds of the constitution and laws has served to further enhance a sense of mastery among our people. At the same time, the policy of openness in dealing with foreign countries adopted by our party and government has created favorable conditions for our national defense and economic construction, thus ensuring the survival and development for our country.

On the basis of the all-out implementation of the restructuring policy aimed at transforming the economic management style of bureaucratic centralism and state financing into the business accounting management mechanism, promoting the multisectoral economic structure, applying the principles of the goods-money and market relations, broadening the economic relations with foreign countries, and transforming the natural and seminatural economy into the goods economy, our production has now become smoother and more efficient. As a result, the speed of development of our national economy has become considerably more rapid, thereby gradually ensuring the material well-being of our multiethnic people. The most outstanding phenomenon in this direction has occurred in the agricultural field—the very field which has been regarded by our party as the first line of our battlefront. Production in this field has clearly increased. Compared to 1976, in which we managed to harvest only some 455,000 metric tons of paddy from the main rice crops, in 1990 we managed to produce more than 1 million metric tons of paddy. In 1976, we harvested only a little more than 3,000 metric tons of dry season paddy, while in 1990 we managed to increase the dry season production to more than 40,000 metric tons. So far, we are able to ensure that the basic food supply needs can be met and that a definite volume of food grains can be maintained in our country.

In the trading field, the policy of free and legitimate circulation of goods has served to increase the initial role of our trading sector. Due to this policy, markets have sprung up in many localities and goods have become more plentiful.

In the industrial and handicraft field, production continues to develop. Transportation, communications, and postal work, which constitute sharp tools in the national economy, have also developed. The construction, repair, and restoration of many important national highways and bridges have been completed. The postal system has been consolidated and expanded to all provinces and many districts throughout the country.

As for the education and public health fields, by implementing the party's direction in putting education work one step ahead of other tasks, an educational reform project has been implemented. In doing so, a new educational strategy has been vigorouly put into effect, thus raising the quality of education among our population. Extensive improvement and development have also occurred in public health work, thereby superbly meeting the requirements of the people in health care.

The quality and substance of the information and cultural work have also been upgraded so as to allow it to more rapidly and satisfactorily publicize the lines and policies of the party and state, as well as the country's achievements and progress. The fine national culture and also arts artifacts have been preserved, safeguarded, and partially restored.

Along with the development of other spheres of work, the national defense and public security maintenance work among the masses have also been consolidated and gradually strengthened in order to consistently ensure political stability, peace, and social order for our society.

To further enhance the tradition of patriotism, to safeguard the fruits of the revolution, and to particularly ensure that the implementation of the party's restructing policy has been carried out in the right direction, the leadership organizations at all levels must pay attention to educating and training cadres, party members, and people to profoundly appreciate and understand the party's restructuring line. They must promote unity and unification among the multiethnic Lao people of all strata; and effectively organize the implementation of the party's political tasks. At the same time, the leadership organizations must also know how to further enhance the people's tradition of patriotism, right to mastery, and democratic freedoms so as to allow them to enthusiastically and positively contribute to carrying out national defense and socieconomic development in the LPDR, thus making our country permanently wealthy, strong, progressive, and prosperous.

Nation's Important Communications Projects Noted

BK2711124591 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 27 Nov 91

[Undated PASASON Article: "Improvement and Building a Communications System in Our Country"]

[Text] In nearly two decades since the formation of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR], the party Central Committee and government have attached great significance to the development of a communications system. It regards a communications network as a catalyst for the multifaceted socioeconomic development which is aimed at eliminating the backward natural economy, bringing about a goods-oriented economy for the present and future, and accelerating the process of establishing the money-goods relations and market mechanism in the country in line with the strong aspirations of the multiethnic people in our national community.

Himmakon Montham and Noi Indavong, deputy ministers of communications, transport, post, and construction, once stated that the LPDR Government, with broadened cooperation with foreign countries, has used much financial resources and modern technology for the construction of national strategic highways, in particular, the over 1,000 kilometer Route No. 13 from Vientiane to Pak Mong in Luang Prabang Province and from Vientiane to the Lao-Cambodian border in the southern province of Champassak. According to the plan, this asphalt highway will be completed in 1996. International bids were called for the construction of the different phases of the southern portion of Route No. 13. The money used for the construction has been drawn from the country's revenue, gratis aid, and low-interest loans from the Asian Development Bank, World Bank, the Northern European Fund, and other countries. The gratis aid from the Swedish Government for communications development in Laos since 1980 is 246 million kronor or [United States] $40 million. Another important event that should be noted here is that the Australian Government has provided $30 million gratis aid for the construction of the Lao-Thai Bridge across the Mekong River between Tha Naleng and Thailand's Nong Khai Province. Construction has begun and is to be completed in mid-1994. Moreover, the Governments of the Soviet Union, PRC, and other friendly countries have also contributed financially and technically to the development of land, water, and air communications systems in the LDPR.

The two deputy ministers also confirmed that the LPDR's economic renovation policy for socioeconomic development is correct. It has won the full support and the participation of not only the Lao multiethnic people but also many other countries and international organizations. The constructions of Route No. 13 and the bridge across the Mekong River are great historic events for the LPDR—a landlocked country with a small domestic market, a primitive means of production, and no industrial foundation. The asphalt Route No. 13 and the Mekong River bridge, when completed, will be tremendously useful to the Lao people and lead the country to prosperity in the future.

Philippines

Further on Period for Base Withdrawal Agreement

Manglapus on Abrogating Pact

HK0212033891 Quezon City MALAYA in English 30 Nov 91 p 2

[By Ellen Tordesillas]

[Text] It does not necessarily need the next administration to abrogate an agreement on the withdrawal of U.S. forces from Subic Naval Base that will be concluded by the Aquino administration with the U.S. There is nothing that prevents the Aquino administration from doing it, Foreign Secretary Raul S. Manglapus said yesterday.

Asked how it can ensure that three-year withdrawal of U.S. forces from Subic being negotiated by Executive Secretary Franklin Drilon and Ambassador Frank Wisner would be irreversible, Manglapus said: "I don't know of any treaty that is irreversible by the next government. Even the government that negotiated the treaty may move to abrogate it for valid reasons."

"I cannot imagine a treaty that is irreversible. Even the government that negotiated it can revert itself," he added.

A U.S. congressional delegation told reporters Thursday that it is banking on the next administration to allow U.S. military forces 10 more years in Subic in exchange for their cleaning up of Subic of volcanic ashes from Mt. Pinatubo.

Manglapus said the Philippines is a free country and American congressmen are free to come and say "things like that."

"This is a democratic system and the next government will have its own opportunity to indulge in its own foreign policy," Manglapus said.

The Senate had rejected the RP [Republic of the Philippines]- U.S. Treaty of Friendship, Security and Cooperation concluded by Manglapus with U.S. Special Negotiator Richard Armitage that would have allowed the U.S. forces to stay 10 more years in Subic.

The Senate has agreed to a rent-free three-year withdrawal of U.S. forces from Subic.

In another development, police and U.S. Air Force agents recovered Monday in Makati aircraft electronic equipment worth some $1.7 million stolen from Clark Air Base at the height of the Mt. Pinatubo eruption last June.

Chief Superintendent Vicente Vinarao, Criminal Investigation Service Command director, said the joint team recovered from the house of businessman Felipe Magallon at 7723-E Paul St. five units of signal generators, an iron sponder, an video indicator, four avionics repair and maintenance equipment, two test sets, two computer verifier and one adaptor group. [sentence as published]

Magallon told probers the parts belong to a "*kumpadre* [good friend]" whom he refused to identify.

Vinarao said Magallon was released after the USAF refused to file charges. The Americans said they only want to recover the stolen items. The stolen equipment are used in the control system of fighter jets and have been shipped to the U.S.

Aquino Predicts Signing Date

HK3011042991 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 0400 GMT 30 Nov 91

[Text] President Aquino has said that the Philippines and the United States will sign an agreement on a three-year withdrawal of the U.S. forces from the country before this year ends. The president stated this when she received 14 American congressmen led by William Dickinson in Malacanang. The president said that in compliance with the Philippine Constitution, the executive agreement should be signed before 31 December.

Meanwhile, the congressmen expressed sadness over the rejection of a treaty proposing a 10-year extension of the U.S. forces' stay in the country. However, they asserted that the United States will continue to cooperate with the Philippines, which they consider a friend.

Malacanang Sets 31 Dec Deadline

HK0212012591 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in Tagalog 0100 GMT 2 Dec 91

[Text] Malacanang has set the deadline for the forging of an executive agreement between the United States and the Philippines for the withdrawal of U.S. forces in Subic Naval Base on 31 December 1991. According to Executive Secretary Franklin Drilon, if no agreement is reached between the two countries after the deadline, the government will send a one-year notice of termination to the United States. It is recalled that last month the government sent a diplomatic note to the United States relating to the three-year no rental pullout period.

Olongapo Mayor Seeks National Dialogue on Bases

HK0212100991 Manila DZXL Radio Mindanao Network in Tagalog 0700 GMT 2 Dec 91

[Text] Olongapo City Mayor Richard Gordon has endorsed the holding of a national dialogue regarding the future of Philippines- U.S. relations. Gordon said when the Constitution was drafted, particularly the provisions relating to the U.S. bases, the implications were not thoroughly discussed. According to Gordon, the Senate rejected the proposal for a new treaty extending the U.S. bases in the Philippines despite popular support by the Filipinos. Gordon said the antibases senators have no right to impose their wishes on the Filipino people. In view of this, Gordon called for a continuing dialogue in which the Filipinos can voice their true sentiments about the American bases and the future of Philippines- U.S. relations.

Malacanang Rejects Talks With Rightist Rebels

HK0212023291 Manila DWIZ Voice of the Filipino People's Radio in Tagalog 2200 GMT 1 Dec 91

[Text] Malacanang rejects the proposal to reopen peace dialogues with rebel soldiers led by renegade Colonel Gregorio Gringo Honasan.

According to Press Under Secretary Horacio Paredes, there is no reason to resume the peace talks offered by the government, because the rebels cannot present any new proposals. Paredes, however, said that it still possible for Malacanang to change its mind and extend its peace initiative concerning rightist rebels if the latter can come up with new, worthwhile proposals.

Paredes explained that it is not logical to reopen peace dialogues when the rebels cannot present new proposals. The all-out manhunt for the group of Honasan was relaunched on 24 November following the 23 November expiration of peace negotiation period. The Armed Forces of the Philippines chief of staff promised to capture Honasan and other leaders of the Revolutionary Nationalist Alliance-Soldiers of the Filipino People-Young Officers Union before the May 1992 elections. Paredes said that the government will continue negotiations with rebel soldiers if they can present new proposals that are meant to end the rebellion within military ranks.

Army Chief on Capture of Honasan, Coup Threat

HK2811024591 Manila DWIZ Voice of the Filipino People's Radio in Tagalog 2200 GMT 27 Nov 91

[Text] The military assured that former Colonel Gregorio Gringo Honasan and other leaders of the Reform the Armed Forces Movement-Soldiers of the Filipino People-Young Officers Union will be captured before May. This was the assurance made by General Lisandro Abadia, chief of staff of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, to President Corazon Aquino. Abadia said the threat by the rebel soldiers to launch a new coup d'etat against the government is nothing to worry about. He belittled the capability of Honasan's group to launch a new coup attempt against the government saying that the only thing Honasan group can do is to scare people by bombing big establishments. Abadia added that the arrest of Honasan and his followers will end the rebel soldiers movement and lead to the final resolution of the government's problem on this issue.

Official Says NPA 'Fast Declining' in Bicol

HK2711031791 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 27 Nov 91 p 16

[By Owen Masaganda]

[Text] Camp Ola, Legazpi City—Chief Superintendent Miguel Fontanilla, Bicol region director of the Philippine National Police (PNP), said yesterday that the communist New People's Army (NPA) is fast declining with the arrest of more of its leaders and loss of civilian support for the movement.

Fontanilla made this assessment during a briefing with newsmen after the capture of three suspected NPA leaders in Daraga and Camalig, Albay, by joint elements of the Albay PNP command led by Supt. Marcelo Navarro and Supt. Renato de Lima, Bicol director for intelligence.

The three NPAs were identified as Gumercindo Lleve, alias Ka [Comrade] Roldan; Antonio Lerio, alias Ka Tony; and Rodolfo Medalla, alias Ka Jim. They were arrested in their respective hideouts in Daraga and Camalig.

Lleve told Fontanilla that he is a squad leader with 14 men under his command.

Fontanilla said that the three were on a secret mission when arrested in an undisclosed house in barangay Panoypoy, Daraga. They said that they left their firearms in Ligao.

Lleve said that some of their leaders were returning to the fold of the law beause of unfulfilled promises of money, food, medicines and clothing.

Medalla told Fontanilla that he belonged to the propaganda unit of the CPP [Communist Party of the Philippines] -NPA-NDF [National Democratic Front] delivering speeches in various barangays, telling the people of a much better life under communist rule.

Lerio said that he belonged to the intelligence unit of the underground movement, providing information about government troop movement.

Thailand

Cambodia's Sihanouk Arrives in Thailand 30 Nov

BK3011105891 Hong Kong AFP in English 1051 GMT 30 Nov 91

[Excerpt] Bangkok, Nov 30 (AFP)—Prince Norodom Sihanouk, president of Cambodia's Supreme National Council (SNC), arrived Saturday at a military airbase in eastern Thailand, a Thai official at the base said by telephone.

Sihanouk arrived from Phnom Penh aboard a Thai military aircraft which landed at the Navy's U-Tapao Air Base in eastern Thailand at 4:27 P.M. local time.

The prince was driven immediately to the seaside resort of Phatthaya, 120 kilometres (75 miles) southeast of here.

In Phatthaya, he will meet with Khmer Rouge leaders Khieu Samphan and Son Sen, who were attacked Wednesday by an angry mob in Phnom Penh and forced to flee back to Thailand hours after their arrival in the Cambodian capital.

The SNC is due to meet Tuesday in Phatthaya, after a planned meeting in Phnom Penh was cancelled following the attack by Cambodians still bitter over the Khmer Rouge 1975-1979 rule, which left more than one million people dead.

The meeting will be the third of the SNC, set up to group the four factions of the country's civil war and embody Cambodian sovereignty until elections can be held under a U.N.-sponsored peace plan, in the Thai seaside resort. [passage omitted]

Foreign Ministry Queries Burma on Detained Vessel

BK0112145191 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in Thai 1200 GMT 1 Dec 91

[Text] In connection with an incident on 15 November in which a Thai oil tanker Inter Bunker, leased to a Singapore company as a cargo ship supplying oil to fishing trawlers in international waters off the Andaman Sea, was fired on by a Burmese navy ship resulting in one Thai crewman being killed and another wounded, the Foreign Ministry reported that it had instructed the Thai embassy in Rangoon to check with the Burmese authorities for an explanation. Now the Burmese Foreign Ministry has given an answer to the Thai ministry.

According to it, the Burmese patrol ship intercepted the Inter Bunker in Burmese waters during the night of 15 November. It tried to contact the Inter Bunker, but failed to receive any signal. The Burmese ship therefore opened fire on the Thai vessel. One Thai crew member, Suphot Sunantha, was killed in the incident, and another Thai was wounded. One Indonesian was killed and another wounded. The oil tanker and its crew are now still in the detention of the Burmese Government pending investigation.

The Thai embassy has requested the Burmese authorities for the number and names of the Thai crew, and also for permission to visit the wounded person as well as those under detention so that further help can be given.

Relief Workers Say Forced Repatriation Allowed

BK3011135291 Hong Kong AFP in English 1321 GMT 30 Nov 91

[Text] Bangkok Nov 30 (AFP)—Relief workers have accused the Thai military of giving a green light to the Khmer Rouge to forcibly move back the refugees under their control.

The sudden about-face by the military means that thousands of refugees will be forced to return to malaria-infested areas controlled by the Khmer Rouge, the relief workers said.

For several months, relief workers have been allowed to stay overnight in refugee camps to ensure that no one is forced to return into Cambodia against their will.

But refugees workers are now being told that from Sunday on they will not be allowed to stay overnight to monitor the movement of refugees, the sources said.

In order to stay overnight in any refugee camp along the border, relief workers will have to seek permission from the Thai military one week in advance.

Although the order is applied to every camp, relief workers said they fear that the Khmer Rouge refugees will be the prime target for forced repatriation.

There have been fears in recent weeks that the Khmer Rouge guerrilla faction was preparing to force more than 40,000 refugees, currently in a U.N.-assisted camp just inside Thailand, back across the border into areas it controls in the west of the country.

The Thai military cited a security risk as the reason for the order.

But observers say they may be upset over the delay in the return of about 350,000 refugees along the Thai border and have decided to give the warring factions the chance to force refugees back to the area they controlled.

The Thai military recently said they would oppose forced repatriations. However, one Western diplomat said here Saturday, "they clearly change their minds and try to get rid of the refugees by whatever means.

"This is clearly in contradiction of the spirit of the agreement signed by Thailand with the United Nations that no refugee will be forced to return against their will," the diplomat added.

Central Bank Eases SRV Exchange Restrictions

BK2611032791 Bangkok THE NATION in English 26 Nov 91 p B1

[Excerpt] The Bank of Thailand plans to add Vietnam to the list of neighbouring countries which can use the Thai baht to finance trade and may further relax the rules on foreign currency deposits with local banks.

Under the scheme, an individual can take out a maximum Bt100,000 and a corporation a maximum Bt200,000 to Vietnam without official authorization. The limit is normally Bt50,000.

Cambodia and Laos are already the countries which are enjoying the foreign exchange liberalization which went into effect when Thailand accepted to abide by the conditions under Article 8 of the International Monetary Fund.

Kiatisak Micharoen, director of the central bank's Foreign Exchange Department, said that a review was being made to add Vietnam to the foreign exchange deregulation list of countries which can use the Thai baht to finance trade.

He described the move to coincide with the opening up of Indochinese countries.

Meanwhile, he said the maximum US$5 million for a company to take out to invest overseas would be maintained. This privilege was introduced in the second phase of the foreign exchange liberalization scheme introduced in March.

Only three to four firms have exercised this rights when the central bank only took two to three days to approve. [passage omitted]

Cambodia Allows Opening of Thai Military Bank

BK2611032191 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 26 Nov 91 p 17

[Excerpt] The Cambodian Government has allowed the Thai Military Bank (TMB) to open a branch in Koh Kong, bank President Dr Suphachai Phanitphakdi said yesterday.

If set up, the TMB's branch will be the first Thai commercial bank branch in that country. A few months ago, Siam Commercial Bank [SCB] jointly with the Cambodian central bank set up a commercial bank—Cambodian Commercial Bank—in that country. SCB's subsidiary is the first Thai commercial bank there, but it is not a branch of a Thai bank.

Dr Suphachai said the bank was expected to set up a branch and start operations there in the first quarter of next year.

"We just need to have permission from the Bank of Thailand," he said. He believed there would be no problems getting central bank approval.

The new Cambodian branch would engage primarily in lending and trade financing activities.

Trade between Thailand's Trat Province and Koh Kong of Cambodia was expected to increase significantly in the near future.

"We are also interested in entering a joint venture with the Thai businessmen who obtained permission to set up a commercial bank in China on a 50:50 basis," Dr Suphachai said.

Setting up a bank in China would be easier than setting up a branch there, he said.

The Chinese Government had a rule that for a bank licence to be given, investors must have a bank as their partner. The bank must have current total assets of no less than 50,000 million baht.

"That's why we were approached by the group of businessmen who wanted to set up a bank over there. We are still negotiating on certain conditions," he said.

A well-informed source said the group of businessmen approved to set up a bank in China were part of the M-Thai Group. They were expected to open the bank in China next year.

Dr Suphachai said the Thai Military Bank also was awaiting a reply from the Laotian Government to its request to open a branch there. [passage omitted]

Agriculture Ministry Develops Cambodia Aid Plan

BK3011090691 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in English 1500 GMT 29 Nov 91

[Text] The Agriculture and Cooperatives Ministry is working on a plan to help agricultural development in Cambodia. The plan will constitute the first step in promoting Thai investment in agriculture and agro-industries in the neighboring country.

Agriculture Deputy Minister At Taolanon said Thailand will help provide technical assistance and transfer agricultural technologies to Cambodian farmers and government officials, in fields such as fresh water aquaculture, prevention and treatment of animal diseases, and crop planting. Thailand will also help the development of agri-business in Cambodia, At said.

According to At, the assistance provided to Cambodia will pave the way for the Thai Government to promote private investments in that country, such as those in shrimp farming, development of livestock, planting of perennial trees, and fruits and vegetables.

He said the plan will be a three-stepped one. He said the execution of the plan will start whenever Cambodia is ready. Thailand is prepared to send the mission at any time.

Anan: Constitution Not To Cause Social Upheaval

BK2811034291 Bangkok THE NATION in English 28 Nov 91 p A2

[By Oranut Anusaksathin, Thawisak Sriphan]

[Text] Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun expressed confidence yesterday that the political confrontation over the draft charter would not snowball into social upheaval, while the pro-domocracy alliance remained apparently divided yesterday about whether to charge ahead radically.

In his statement to the inaugural session of the annual conference of Thammasat University's Economic Club yesterday, the premier was apparently trying to tone down any negative impact of the "charter crisis" on the country's economic outlook.

Putting the conflict into the country's historical perspective, Anan said the students' and political parties' protests against the draft constitution were trivial.

Although the situation has caused the general public to worry about the country's future and discouraged foreign investors from injecting fresh capital into Thailand, the premier expected an acceptable compromise to be reached among all parties concerned in the near future.

The interim government, Anan added, would continue to work on infrastructure projects intended to remove the transportation and communications bootlenecks which have been cited as major impediments to the country's investment expansion.

The upgrading of infrastructure and public utilities would continue for the next three or four years before the demand is met. Meanwhile, he was confident that the system that his government has laid down would be helpful to the country to sustain its high growth.

Despite a somewhat tense and uneasy delivery, the prime minister managed to provide some comfort to the huge crowd gathered at the Queen Sirikit National Convention Centre, saying that the political conflict would find a resolution in a "Thai way". "We must be courageous enough to face the truth," the premier said.

According to a study by Dr Chaiyawat Wibunsawat, assistant governor of the Bank of Thailand, and Dr Praiphon Komsap, economics lecturer at Thammasat University, the year 1992 will determine the future of the Thai economy.

They said the economy in 1992 is expected to grow at 7.5 to 8 per cent which will serve as a new base for Thailand after having experienced double-digit growth rates for three consecutive years. If the rate is maintained for three to four years, the Thai economy will be firm and fundamentally strong.

The two academics said whether this is achievable or not depends on the adjustment of the private sector, which must be cautious in its investment decisions. The implementation of major infrastructure projects will take time, they added.

Concerning inflation, they said it will not exceed five per cent next year and the current account deficit will fall.

They predicted that the cost of production will decrease because interest rates are expected to fall as liquidity improves. Other positive factors are the reductions of import tariffs and personal income tax and corporate tax, the minimal pressure for wage increases and stable crude prices.

They said the world economy will grow at 2-3 per cent and inflation will be in the range of 2-3 per cent. The crude price would not rise beyond US$21 per barrel and the multilateral trade negotiations under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (Gatt) will be concluded successfully, they added.

Despite the current political showdown between the pro-democracy movement and the military, Anan stressed that the fundamentals of the Thai economy remain strong and firm.

The pro-democracy alliance resolved yesterday to continue its campaign against the charter draft but varying stands in the movement raised doubts about whether it would succeed in derailing the controversial document in the final reading next month.

The movement's division became obvious yesterday, two days after the military-established interim National Legislative Assembly was forced under mounting pressure to drastically amend the constitution draft. The amendment curbed the power of the Senate but the upper house still has the power to oust the next government in a non-confidence session or by rejecting a royal decree.

One group in the movement wants to pursue a radical push for a total rejection of the draft, while the other, led by the Democrat party apparently wants to see it pass the final reading. The Democrats reiterated they will "stand by the opinions of the majority" but pointed out that even if the draft passed the final voting, its remaining controversial parts could still be amended after the next election.

The Democrat stand was criticized during the alliance's meeting at the Chulalongkon University yesterday, said informed sources.

The Democrats and four other major parties, however, resolved that the charter draft which passed the second reading Monday was still "unaceptable". Academics and student activists who formed the extended movement also endorsed the resolution.

Chatchai Not Seeking Chat Thai Party Leadership

BK0212014291 Bangkok THE NATION in English 2 Dec 91 pp A1-A2

[Excerpt] Former prime minister Chatchai Chunhawan, who is planning a political comeback to fight a summary corruption ruling, said yesterday he would not seek to return to the Chat Thai Party's helm he abandoned after the February coup.

"Take my word, I will not accept the Chat Thai leadership again," aid the former party leader. "If I contest a House seat, I'll run as an ordinary party member."

But Chatchai still remained noncommittal as to whether he would run in the next general election.

"I said 'if' I decide to run," Chatchai said when asked where he would choose to stage his political comeback. "So it's not certain yet. I'll make a decision when I can no longer tolerate the political harassment against me."

Upset by the military-installed investigators' decision to order the confiscation of more than Bt [baht] 200 million worth of his assets, Chatchai vowed last Wednesday hat he would not take it lying down but would fight it in the political arena.

The Assets Examination Committee ruled Chatchai "unusually rich" and ordered confiscation of his assets worth more than Bt200 million. His former aide and business associate Phitak Intarawirayanant was also ruled corrupt by the committee with alleged ill-gotten assets valued at more than Bt300 million ordered seized.

One day after Chatchai vowed to "fight back", newly-elected Chat Thai leader ACM [Air Chief Marshal] Sombun Rahong hinted that the former leader Chatchai might return to lead the Chat Thai Party again.

Sombun said a party caucus had been tentatively scheduled on Dec 17 "to decide the party leadership issue".

The new party leader made it clear on Saturday that he was willing to return the party leadership to Chatchai.

"It's like I'm allowed by my parents to stay in a big mansion," Sombun said, "but when my parents want to come back again, I would be glad to return the mansion to them."

Sombun has close connections with the military, and his appointment as new Chat Thai leader stirred rumours about a "secret deal" that would give Chatchai some leniency in the corruption probe.

Chatchai's wife, Thanpuying Bunruen, indicated yesterday the former prime minister would certainly return to the political scene.

"His star is tied with politics," she told reporters at the Royal Hotel.

She expressed anger at the assets committee's rulings.

"What did he (Chatchai) do to deserve this?" she said. "It looks like child's play."

Several senior Chat Thai members, including deputy leader Pramuan Saphawasu and Sano Thienthong, last week said they would support Chatchai in his comeback, especially if he decided to stand in the general election.

Sano said he was confident Chatchai would run for a House seat.

The speculation that Chatchai would run for a House seat was greeted warmly by a group of prominent businessmen in Nakhon Ratchasima where Chatchai stood in the last general election.

The founder of the pro-military Samakkhi Tham Party, meanwhile, said yesterday the assets committee's rulings would unlikely push Chat Thai closer to forming an alliance with the New Aspiration Party, now the armed forces' Number One rival.

Thiti Nakhontap noted that NAP leader Chawalit Yongchaiyut quit the Chat Thai-led government coalition last year.

"Who made Chawalit resign as deputy prime minister? Who did Chawalit want to fight when he resigned and set up his own party?" Thiti asked. [passage omitted]

Political Parties Continue Constitution Campaign

BK2811073291 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 28 Nov 91 pp 1, 3

[Text] Five political parties, the Students' Federation of Thailand [SFT] and non-governmental organisations yesterday asked people to give their opinions of the draft charter.

The five parties continuing the campaign for a democratic Constitution were New Aspiration, Phalang Tham, Solidarity, Democrat and Prachakon Thai.

The Campaign for Popular Democracy (CPD), which coordinates pro-democracy forces, issued a statement on their behalf saying that the campaign will be mainly to educate the public about the essence of the draft.

"We want the people to say whether or not they agree with the draft charter," Gothom Ariya of the CPD told a press conference at Chulalongkon University.

SFT Secretary-General Prinya Thiwanarumitkun said a halt in student activities at Lan Phao, Thammasat Univeristy, does not mean students will stop calling for a democratic consitution.

"We have only changed the style of our campaign. We will now concentrate on meeting the people," he said.

Wira Musikaphong, a senior member of the New Aspiration Party, said three political parties calling for the draft charter to be "killed"—New Aspiration, Phalang Tham and Solidarity—will hold a rally at Sanam Luang on December 6, the day before the draft goes before the National Legislative Assembly for its third reading.

In other developments, people from various backgrounds gave Phalang Tham Party [PDP] leader Chamlong Simuang moral support for his pledge to continue a campaign for the assembly to reject the draft.

They included representatives of many labor unions, the State Enterprise Workers Relations group and vocational students.

Phanuk Thanyarot, a former vocational school instructor, said a large number of vocational students are ready to sign in support of Maj-Gen Chamlong's campaign.

Phongsak Linanon, a PDP member from Phasi Chatchroen, gave a list bearing more than 1,000 signatures to Maj-Gen Chamlong. The list was sent to Assembly Chairman Ukrit Mongkonnawin yesterday along with the Bangkok governor's proposal for the assembly not to vote for passage of the draft.

Prasit Khaikanokwong, who said he represented state enterprise workers, gave Maj-Gen Chamlong a letter of support.

Maj-Gen Chamlong said a charter which empowers senators to vote out the government should be scrapped. The provisions for the NPKC [National Peace-Keeping Council] to appoint senators and for senators to join a no-confidence vote to oust the govenrment are not acceptable.

He said his struggle will be peaceful, adding: "We should not wait until after the election to amend the constitution. Why don't we fight to get a democratic one right away?"

The Prachatham Party, which has just applied to the Interior Ministry for registration as a party, issued a statement calling for parties, students, academics and other people to oppose the draft, which "lacks a democratic spirit."

Party coordinators Kriangkamon Laophairot, a former student activist, called for those responsible for working out the draft to heed public opinion.

New Aspiration Party members began their campaign against the draft by asking the public to sign a petition.

Meanwhile, leaflets allegedly written by an adhoc committee coordinating eight vocational students' groups were distributed around the Victory Monument yesterday, opposing politicians and activists who are campaigning for a democratic constitution.

The leaflets said such groups have confused the public and claimed there are attempts to use students and other people in general as tools to oppose the charter in aggressive ways. This could only delay passage of the draft and the general election and would not contribute to democratic progress.

Further attempts for a more democratic charter should rest with elected MPs, according ot the leaflets.

The leaflets stated the assembly had already listened to the public and the draft is suitable for the situation in the country.

The committee said it will soon hold a press conference at the Victory Monument.

Paper on Freedom of Information Restraint Problem

BK2711051191 Bangkok THE NATION in English 27 Nov 91 p A6

[Editorial: "One More Victim Axed, What Will Be Next?"]

[Text] The Sunday evening program "Mong Tang Mum" (Looking from Different Perspectives) on Channel 11, run by the Public Relations Department [PRD], used to be a showcase for the Anan administration's policy of fredom of information. Not any more. The program was abruptly axed yesterday, apparently because of criticism of the National Peacekeeping Council [NPKC] and the undemocratic draft constitution by some panellists on last Sunday's program.

The ban closed the last popular forum for dissenting voices on television. From now on the audience will have to put up with the NPKC's version of "truth" and state pep talks on the military-run TV pool, like the interviews of National Assembly President Ukrit Mongkhonnawin and M.R. Khukrit Pramot on all five networks on Monday night.

Ukrit claimed during the hastily arranged interview that the NPKC's appointed National Assembly "listened and responded" to the public outcry against the undermocratic features in the draft constitution. M.R. Khukrit, on the other hand, brushed aside questions on whether the latest draft could be described as democratic; he emphasized instead that given the existing political constraints it would produce, in his opinion, an "acceptable" constitution as the sanctity of the monarchy would continue to be upheld.

The point, however, is whether the NPKC has any legitimacy to maintain constitutional power to make or break an elected civilian government in the four years after the promulgation of the new constitution in question. Both Ukrit and M.R. Khukrit skirted the issue completely.

Is this supposed to be the NPKC's and the Anan administration's joint approach to building a strong foundation for the genuine democracy? We don't believe trying to keep people ignorant can serve any democratic purpose. Rather, the continuing attempt to spoon-feed people one-sided news and conformist views will backfire and destroy the credibility of the powers-that-be.

The ban on "Mong Tang Mum" came on top of an earlier gag order to state-owned Channels 3 and 9 run by the Mass Communications Organization of Thailand. The order was issued by Aphilast Osathanon, permanent-secretary of the PM's Office, and Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun denied any prior knowledge, saying that Aphilat acted in his independent capacity as chairman of the MCOT board. Prime Minister Anan and his highly-principled Cabinet may not directly be involved in suppressing political dissent. But neither did they show any objection to what transpired, though banning views critical of the NPKC and the draft constitution clearly violates the freedom of information which they claim to treasure.

In the case of "Mong Tang Mum" the prime minister said he didn't have anything to do with the ban; personally he wants the program to continue. And presumably PM's Office Minister Michai Wirawaithaya, who oversees the PRD, had no part in the ban either. The director of Channel 11 merely exercised his independent judgement in discontinuing the programme for fear of offending the powers-that-be any further. This is rather strange, to say the least: a single bureaucrat at Channel 11 daring to contradict the Anan administration's policy of freedom of information on his own initiative.

By not defending freedom of information the Anan administration has virtually signalled it is surrendering in its self-appointed effort to build a strong foundation for genuine democracy. Its contribution so far has been limited to submitting the bill to give corrupt politicians a chance to appeal the confiscation of their ill-gotten assets by the Sitthi committee in court. However this hardly qualifies as a positive contribution, as the legislation would in effect give the corrupt politicians a new lease of life, instead of being banished from national politics for life.

The sad paradox our country is facing is that the NPKC—whose leaders have shown little understanding of democratic principles and low tolerance for political dissent—is actively manipulating the process to produce a new constitution from behind the scenes.

After "Mong Tang Mum", what will be the next victim? The independent press? The credibility of the Anan admfinistration?

Vietnam

Japan's Former LDP Secretary General Visits

Meets Hong Ha 28 Nov

BK2811155191 Hanoi VNA in English 1415 GMT 28 Nov 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA Nov. 28—Keizo Obuchi, former secretary general of the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) of Japan, paid a visit to Vietnam at the invitation of the External Relations Commission of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee.

Hong Ha, secretary of the CPV CC [Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee] and head of the commission, held talks with Mr. Keizo Obuchi today. The two sides informed each other of the situation of their respective countries.

They also expressed their wishes that Mr. Keizo Obuchi's visit would contribute to the development of the multi-faceted relations between the two countries.

The talks took place in an atmosphere of friendship and mutual understanding.

Meets Do Muoi, Vo Van Kiet

BK2911154191 Hanoi VNA in English 1519 GMT 29 Nov 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA Nov. 29—Do Muoi, general secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee, received here today Mr. Keizo Obuchi, former secretary general of Japan's ruling Liberal Democratic Party [LDP], and chairman of the Japan-Vietnam Cultural Exchange Relations Association.

General Secretary Do Muoi informed his guest of the very important initial results of renovation in Vietnam in implementation of the resolutions of the 7th national congress of the CPV, both on the domestic plane and in the external relations.

Mr. Keizo Obuchi expressed his belief that Vietnam would tide over difficulties and stabilize the socio-economic situation to move forward.

General Secretary Do Muoi and Mr. Keizo Obuchi unanimously held that the development of the multifaaceted relations between Vietnam and Japan not only meets the aspiration of the people in each country but also contributes to peace, stability and development in Southeast Asia.

Ealier, Mr. Keizo Obuchi was cordially received by Chairman of the Council of Ministers Vo Van Kiet.

Mr. Keizo Obuchi also met with Hong Ha, secretary and head of the CPV Central Committee External Relations Commission, called on the Vietnam-Japan Cultural Exchange Association and visited a number of economic and cultural establishments in Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City.

Japanese Foreign Minister Receives Le Mai 28 Nov

BK3011080291 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 29 Nov 91

[Text] Mr. Michio Watanabe, Japan's deputy prime minister and foreign minister, received Vietnam's Deputy Foreign Minister Le Mai in Tokyo on the morning of 28 November 1991. Also present was Japan's Deputy Foreign Minister (Kuzi Kakizawa).

Deputy Foreign Minister Le Mai conveyed to Mr. Watanabe the warm greetings from Vietnamese leaders and from Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam.

The comrade informed Mr. Watanabe of the far-reaching developments in the Vietnamese and Southeast Asian situations as well as new developments in the relations between Vietnam and China, between Vietnam and ASEAN, and between Vietnam and the European Community and the outcome of the U.S.-Vietnamese normalization talks held in New York on 21 November.

Deputy Foreign Minister Le Mai was of the view that the situation has ripened for Vietnam and Japan to bring their bilateral relations up to a new level.

Foreign Minister Watanabe said that Japan treasured its relations with Vietnam. He expressed his hope that both sides would contribute to enabling the relations of friendship and cooperation between Vietnam and Japan to achieve ever-greater growth. He also extended his best regards to Vietnamese leaders and Minister Nguyen Manh Cam.

The reception took place in an atmosphere of cordiality and mutual understanding.

Vo Chi Cong Receives Former Envoy to Cambodia

BK2311111091 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 23 Nov 91

[Text] State Council President Vo Chi Cong received in Hanoi Saturday Vietnamese Ambassador to Cambodia Ngo Dien who had returned after finishing his term in Cambodia.

Ambassador Ngo Dien informed the Vietnamese leader on the result of his work over the past 13 years.

President Vo Chi Cong highly valued Mr. Ngo Dien's active contribution for strengthening the solidarity and traditional friendship and cooperation between Vietnam and Cambodia.

He stressed that the Vietnamese state's policy is to do all it can to strengthen and develop relations with the Cambodian people in conformity with the aspiration of both peoples for peace, stability, friendship, and cooperation in Southeast Asia and the world at large.

Vo Van Kiet Receives Former Envoy to Cambodia

BK2711094191 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 27 Nov 91

[Text] On 26 November, Council of Ministers Chairman Vo Van Kiet cordially received comrade Ngo Dien, Vietnamese ambassador to the State of Cambodia who has just concluded his mission and returned home for a new assignment.

Ambassador Ngo Dien briefed Chairman Vo Van Kiet on the results of his mission during the past 13 years in Cambodia. The Chairman solicitiously enquired about the ambassador's health and activities of our embassy in the State of Cambodia. He welcomed and highly appraised important contributions made by ambassador Ngo Dien to the process of seeking a fair, rational political solution to the Cambodian issue as well as the ambassador's efforts to strengthen and develop the traditional solidarity, friendship, and cooperation between the two peoples of Vietnam and Cambodia.

Chairman Vo Van Kiet stressed: With untiring efforts made during the past 13 years, ambassador Ngo Dien has won the confidence of our state and people. The significant and meaningful contributions made by the ambassador and other officials of the Vietnamese Embassy in Cambodia will come into the history on the development of the Vietnamese-Cambodian fraternal friendship. The Chairman asserted that the Vietnamese Government and people will do their best to continue to consolidate and develop relations with the Cambodian people, thereby meeting the two nations' aspiration for peace, stability, friendship, and cooperation in the region and the world.

Lao Ambassador Praises Joint-SRV Relations

BK2911160191 Hanoi VNA in English 1551 GMT 29 Nov 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA Nov. 29—Lao Ambassador to Vietnam Khampheth Phengmuang held a press conference today in Hanoi on the occasion of the 16th National Day of Laos.

The ambassador reviewed the achievements of the Lao people over the past 16 years in all fields, especially the satisfactory results of the economic reforms, and the strengthening of the people's democratic regime as evidenced by the promulgation of the first Constitution of Laos in August last.

The ambassador highly appreciated the precious assistance of the fraternal countries, especially Vietnam, and expressed his wish that the time-honoured special friendship between Vietnam and Laos would further consolidate and develop in the interest of each country, peace, democracy, and social progress in the region and across the world.

Lao National Day Celebrated in Hanoi 30 Nov

BK0112084591 Hanoi VNA in English 0539 GMT 1 Dec 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA Dec. 1—A meeting was held here yesterday evening by the Vietnam-Laos Friendship Association and the party organization, the people's committee and the Fatherland Front of Hanoi in honor of the 16th National Day of Laos (Dec. 2).

Among those present were Nong Duc Manh, Politburo member of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee and president of the Vietnam-Laos Friendship Association, Le At Hoi, member of the executive committee of the Hanoi Party Organisation and mayor of the city, and representatives of public offices and mass organizations in Hanoi.

Lao Ambassador Khampheth Phengmuang and a visiting women delegation from Vientiane also attended the function.

In his speech of greetings, Mayor Le At Hoi highlighted the Lao people's achievements over the past 16 years in national construction and defence, consolidation of the democratic regime, and maintenance of security and social order. He said that thanks to its foreign policy of peace, independence, friendship and cooperation with all countries, Laos has won increasing prestige on the international arena.

The mayor of Hanoi said that the Vietnamese people were very glad at the constant consolidation and development of the special Vietnamese-Lao relations jointly fostered by the two parties, states, and peoples.

Taking the floor Ambassador Khmphet Phengmuang contributed Laos's firm, multi-faceted victories to the joint efforts of the entire party, army, and people of Laos, as well as to the assistance of fraternal countries and international organizations, particularly Vietnam. He held that more than ever before the special relations and multi-sided cooperation between the two countries should be developed more qualitatively and effectively to the aspiration of the two peoples.

Le At Hoi Addresses Meeting

BK0212141391 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 30 Nov 91

[Report on meeting to mark 16th National Day of Lao People's Democratic Republic in Hanoi on 30 November]

[Summary] "Dear friends, at the Hanoi Theater on 30 November, the Hanoi party and people's committees, the Vietnam Fatherland Front, and the Vietnam-Laos Friendship Association held a solemn meeting to mark the 16th National Day of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR].

"Attending the meeting were Comrades Nong Duc Manh, member of Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV] Central Committee Political Bureau and chairman of the Vietnam-Laos Friendship Association; Le At Hoi, chairman of the Hanoi people's committee; and representatives of mass organizations and societies at the central level and in Hanoi. Lao Ambassador to Vietnam Khampheth Phengmuang was also present."

After an opening speech by Comrade Nong Duc Manh, Comrade Le At Hoi delivered a speech reviewing achievements by the Lao people in the past 16 years as well as the development of the Vietnam-Laos special solidarity. He said:

"[Begin Le At Hoi recording] Dear comrades and friends: We are very pleased to see that the Vietnam-Laos special solidarity—a valuable legacy built and consolidated by great President Ho Chi Minh and the two parties, states, and peoples—has been consistenly consolidated and strengthened despite many ordeals during the past several decades. This relationship has become one of the important factors for achieving revolutionary victory in each country. In recent years, while implementing the renovation undertaking set by our two parties, the Vietnam-Laos special solidarity and all-around cooperation have been gradually renovated and perfected and have had initial yet very encouraging achievements. The recent official visit to Vietnam by Comrade Kaysone Phomvihan, chairman of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party [LPRP] Central Committee and president of the LPDR is a great important event of historical significance marking new qualitative development in relations between the two countries. During this official visit, party and state leaders of our two countries agreed that at present it is necessary for our two parties, states, and peoples to make more efforts to protect, strengthen, and enhance the Vietnam-Laos friendship, special solidarity, and all-around cooperation on the basis of respect for each other's independence and sovereignty, equality, and mutual interest, while striving to support and help each other in a fraternal and comradely manner.

"In carrying out great President Ho Chi Minh's teaching, implementing resolutions of the Seventh CPV Congress and agreements reached recently by party and state leaders of the two countries, the Vietnamese people pledge that they will do their best to consistently consolidate and develop the Vietnam-Laos special friendship, solidarity, and all-around cooperation for the mutual interest of our two peoples and for contributing to accelerating and restoring the relations of peace, security, cooperation, and development in the region and the world. [end recording]"

Afterward, Lao Ambassador Khampheth Phengmuang delivered a speech, thanking the Vietnam-Laos Friendship Association, the Hanoi party and people's committees, and the Hanoi Fatherland Front Committee for organizing this solemn meeting to mark the 16th National Day of the LPDR.

After reviewing achievements by the Lao people during the past 16 years, the Lao ambassador said that the Lao-Vietnamese special friendship and solidarity have been tested in the revolutionary struggle during the past several decades and have been consistently developed and strengthened by generations of the two peoples. He stressed that the Lao people are very proud of the Vietnamese people, their faithful friends and comrades who have sacrificed flesh and blood to contribute to the historic victory of the Lao revolution. The ambassador also expressed the profound gratitute to the Vietnamese party, government, and people for their great assistance and support extended to the Lao party, government, and people during the past period.

Dear friends, the meeting was concluded in the atmosphere of special friendship, solidarity, and all-around ooperation between Vietnam and Laos.

Leaders Send Message To Laos on National Day

BK0112142191 Hanoi VNA in English 1418 GMT 1 Dec 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA December 1—Vietnamese party and state leaders today sent a joint message of greetings to their Lao counterparts on the 16th National Day of Laos (Dec. 2).

The congratulatory message was signed by General Secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee Do Muoi, State Council President Vo Chi Cong, Chairman of the Council of Ministers Vo Van Kiet, and National Assembly Chairman Le Quang Dao, and addressed to chairman of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee and President of Laos Kaysone Phomvihan, President of the Supreme People's Assembly Nohak Phoumsavan and Prime Minister Khamtai Siphandon.

The message said: "The Vietnamese people pledge to do all they can to constantly consolidate and develop the special friendship and solidarity and all-round cooperation between Vietnam and Laos for the sake of national construction and defence of both countries and in the interest of peace, stability and cooperation in the region and other parts of the world."

Daily Marks Lao National Day

BK0212104591 Hanoi VNA in English 0549 GMT 2 Dec 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA December 2—The Vietnamese people admire the great achievements recorded by the fraternal Lao people and note with satisfaction that the special relations between Vietnam and Laos have constantly developed, says NHAN DAN in its editorial today marking the 16th National Day of Laos (December 2).

The paper says:

"Over the past 16 years, under the correct leadership of the Laos People's Revolutionary Party headed by General Secretary Kaysone Phomvihane, the fraternal Lao people have overcome numerous difficulties and trials and obtained important achievements in all fields in the transformation of their once poor and war-ravaged country.

"Since the Fifth Congress of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party and the promulgation of the first people's democratic Constitution the situation of the Lao country has experienced positive changes in national construction and defence in the new stage. The prestige and position of Laos are constantly rising on the international arena. Implementing its foreign policy of peace, independence, friendship and cooperation with all countries, Laos has made positive contributions to the political settlement of the Cambodia issue and the building of Southeast Asia into a region of peace, stability, friendship, cooperation and prosperity.

"In the present regional and world situation, now more than ever before the Vietnamese party and people clearly perceive that the strategic task of vital significance of the revolution of the two countries is to increase the efficiency of the special relations of solidarity and friendship and multiform cooperation between the two parties and countries on the basis of respect for each other's independence and sovereignty, equality, mutual benefit and mutual whole-hearted support and assistance".

Soviet Ambassador Visits Ho Chi Minh City

BK2611081991 Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG in Vietnamese 1 Nov 91 p 1

[Report by "H.S." on a reception held in Ho Chi Minh City on 31 October for Soviet Ambassador Khamidulin by city party committee Secretary Vo Tran Chi]

[Text] On the afternoon of 31 October, Comrade Vo Tran Chi, member of the Politburo and secretary of the city party committee, cordially received R.N. Khamidulin, Soviet ambassador to Vietnam, who was visiting Ho Chi Minh City.

The ambassador informed city party committee Secretary Vo Tran Chi of the end of tour of Consul General R.P. Mukhin in the city and introduced the new consul general, I.V. Yuritskiy [name as published].

At the reception, Secretary Vo Tran Chi highly appraised the activities of Consul General R.P. Mukhim during his term of service in the city. He hoped that the new consul would continue the work of Consul General Mukhin.

On the morning of the same day, Pham Chanh Truc, vice chairman of the city party committee, also cordially received the Soviet ambassador and both the outgoing and incoming consul generals. Earlier, Vu Hac Bong, the director of the foreign service, received both the outgoing and incoming consul generals of the Soviet Union in the city.

Romanian Ambassador Holds News Conference 27 Nov

BK2711155191 Hanoi VNA in English 1358 GMT 27 Nov 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA Nov.27—Romanian Ambassador to Vietnam Cristian Mocanu called a press conference here today on the 73rd day of unification of Romania (Dec.1).

He brought out the historic significance of the anniversary as well as latest development in his country.

On Romania's relations with Vietnam, the ambassador said Romania highly appreciates Vietnam's contribution to the settlement of the Cambodia issue and wishes to develop its friendship and multi-sided cooperation with Vietnam in the interest of each country.

Romanian Ambassador Hosts Reception 29 Nov

BK3011161391 Hanoi VNA in English 1541 GMT 30 Nov 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA 30 Nov—Ambassador and Mrs Cristian Mocanu of Romania gave a reception here this evening in honour of the day of reunification of Romania (Dec 1st)

Among their guests were Phan Hien, minister of justice, Vu [name indistinct] deputy foreign minister and Tran Van [name indistinct] deputy minister of building and [word indistinct] of the Vietnam-Romania Friendship Association.

Ambassador Cristian Mocanu and Minister Phan Hien proposed toasts to the development of the tradional relations of friendship and cooperation between Vietnam and Romania.

Vo Van Kiet Meets PLO Envoy, Affirms Support

BK2411153791 Hanoi VNA in English 1458 GMT 24 Nov 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA Nov 24—Chairman of the Council of Ministers Vo Van Kiet received on Nov. 22 Palestinian Ambassador Sa'id Al-Masri who paid him a courtesy visit.

The Palestinian diplomat briefed Chairman Vo Van Kiet of the latest developments in the Palestinian people's struggle. On behalf of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) and the Palestine people he extended to the Vietnamese Government and people deep gratitude for the strong support for the Palestinian people's cause.

Chairman Vo Van Kiet reaffirmed Vietnam's consistent support for the Palestinian people's just struggle for national self-determination and expressed his wish that the friendship and cooperation between Vietnam and the Palestinian state and all Arab countries would strengthen with each passing day.

New German, Japanese Company Operations Noted

BK2711073791 Hanoi VNA in English 0624 GMT 27 Nov 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA Nov. 27—Helm AG, a chemicals, pharmaceuticals, and steel trading company of the Federal Republic of Germany, has opened its resident office in Hanoi, its second office in Vietnam after the first opened in Ho Chi Minh City in 1990.

This brings to 242 the total of offices of foreign corporations in Hanoi.

A symposium to introduce the Japanese company Fujitsu and its telecommunication products was held in Ho Chi Minh City Tuesday by the city's post office and the Japanese Nissho Iwai Company.

Also this symposium Nissho Iwai presented a project on equipping a public telephone network in Song Be province using Fujitsu's equipment with an intial capacity of 5,200 lines and a maximum capacity of 13,000 lines.

Construction on Joint-UK Lubricant Plant Starts

BK2711074791 Hanoi VNA in English 0610 GMT 27 Nov 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA Nov. 27—Work has started on a lubricant oil plant, Castrol Vietnam limited in Ho Chi Minh City. The plant, which has a capacity of 25,000 tonnes a year and an invested capital of USD 3.9 million, is located in Cat Lai, a suburban area. This is a joint venture between Castrol Ltd of Great Britain and Saigon Petroleum Company.

At the ground-breaking ceremony, Mr. Lawrence M. Urquhart, chairman and managing director of Burman Castrol Group said: 'We are pleased at Castrol's investment in Vietnam. We are proud because this is the first lubricant oil company granted licence to invest in Vietnam'.

He said that the plan would be put into operation in early 1993.

Castrol has been in business in Vietnam since 1981 through its agent in Haiphong. Other agents have been established in Ho Chi Minh City, Da Nang and Nha Trang.

According to British Ambassador Peter Williams, British investors have put a total of USD 144 million in Vietnam so far this year.

Joint Venture With South Korean Company Planned

BK2711145891 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 25 Nov 91

[Text] A $3.9 million joint venture will be set up between South Korean [words indistinct] and Steel Company and the Vietnam Steel Company. Under the contract, the two sides will invest on a 50-50 basis and produce each year 10,000 tonnes of [words indistinct] zinc-sheet for roofing.

The South Korean company plans to expand investment in Vietnam, including a plant to produce pipes.

'Subversive' Group Tried in Ho Chi Minh City

BK2911154391 Hanoi VNA in English 1454 GMT 29 Nov 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA Nov. 29—The people's court of Ho Chi Minh City sat in first instance today to try Nguyen Dan Que and his accomplices for their subversive activities against the people's power.

Nguyen Dan Que (born Nguyen Chan) was born in 1942 in Hanoi and is residing in Ho Chi Minh City. A doctor at the Cho Ray Hospital, Ho Chi Minh City, since 1976, after the liberation of South Vietnam, Que began his subversive activities by compiling and distributing the so-called "New Line for a Humanist and Progressive Society" and later founded the "National Progressive Front" aimed at overthrowing the revolutionary administration. He was subsequently arrested and was released in February 1988. However, instead of returning to his subversive plot by clandestinely circulating documents about his "strategy" with concrete targets to abolish socialism in Vietnam. [sentence as received]

To give weight to his counter-revolutionary appeals, Que distorted the Vietnamese people's resistance wars and denigrated the leading role of the communist party in the liberation struggle.

In late 1989 and early 1990 Que distributed thousands of hand- bills written by himself to draw more people into his organisation among them Nguyen Van Thuan, Le Duc Vuong and Nguyen Thien Hung. Using his capacity as a member of Amnesty International he translated some of these documents into English and sent them abroad. These documents have been made the most of by the imperialist and reactionary forces abroad to denigrate the Vietnamese Government on international forums.

A search conducted at his residence on June 14, 1990 yielded additional evidences of his criminal activities.

The court sentenced Nguyen Dan Que to tweny years in prison and Nguyen Van Thuan to ten years, both with five years of disfranchisement after returning from prison.

The other defendants will be tried at another time since they are judged more related to another criminal case than Nguyen Dan Que's group.

Vu Oanh at Vietnam Fatherland Front Meeting

BK2511145191 Hanoi Vietnam Television Network in Vietnamese 1200 GMT 23 Nov 91

[Text] Recently in Thai Binh Province, the central committee of the Vietnam Fatherland Front held a meeting to review its work at village level. Attending the meeting were heads and deputy heads of Vietnam Fatherland Front offices in provinces and cities of North Vietnam; representatives of 20 exemplary district and village offices of the front; representatives from different sectors, party committees, the Office of the National Assembly and the Council of Ministers, many related ministries and departments, and associate organizations of the front; and leaders of Thai Binh Province. Comrade Vu Oanh, member of the Political Bureau of the party Central Committee addressed the meeting.

To implement the resolutions of the seventh national party congress and the third congress of the Vietnam Fatherland Front, the work of the front has focused on grass-roots organizations, involving practical issues of the people's economic, social, and political life.

The grass-roots organizations of the front have been working with their associate organizations to solve problems in rural areas.

The organization and working method of the front in villages have been renewed in the direction of strengthening the front's representatives in villages and hamlets to gradually overcome the inefficiency of the work of the Vietnam Fatherland Front in these places.

The meeting decided on the main tasks of the work of the Vietnam Fatherland Front in villages until 1992.

Dao Duy Tung Addresses Vinh Phu Party Congress

BK2511125591 Hanoi Vietnam Television Network in Vietnamese 1200 GMT 21 Nov 91

[Text] The party organization of Vinh Phu Province held its seventh second-round party congress from 17-21 November 1991.

Attending the congress were 371 delegates representing the various party installations subordinate to the party organization.

Also attending the congress were Comrade Dao Duy Tung, member of the Political Bureau and the Secretariat standing body, and many other comrades representing the various party Central Committee departments.

Following the opening speech of Comrade Bui Xuan Hai, deputy secretary of the provincial party committee and chairman of the provincial people's committee, Comrade Tran Van Dang, member of the party Central Committee and secretary of the provincial party committee, presented the sixth party organization executive committee's political report reviewing the achievements after more than four years of implementing the renovation process on the socioeconomic front.

Agricultural production has developed in a relatively comprehensive way. The average grain output converted to paddy equivalent during the 1986-90 five-year period has reached more than 390,000 tonnes, which is an increase of 11 percent compared with the average grain output of the previous five-year period. Marked progress has been recorded in afforestation. As much as 19,000 hectares of land have been put under afforestation under an intensive five-year development plan. On the average, 3,780 hectares of land have been put under afforestation per year. About 20-30 percent of households have led a stable life. Some of them are getting rich.

Continued progress has been made on the local agricultural front. The average total grain output has increased compared with the previous five-year period. The volume of paper has increased by 102.1 percent, nitrogenous fertilizer by 63 percent, fabrics by 43.3 percent, cement by 34 percent, and so forth.

As for the export index alone, it has increased two-fold compared with the previous five-year period.

Regarding the renovation of social life, national defense and security, and activities of administrative organs and mass societies, encouraging initial results have also been recorded.

However, there still exist many shortcomings in implementing socialist democracy. The lack of democracy is the greatest cause for concern. Some serious cases of violations against democratic principles have occurred in certain localities.

The report also stressed the need to consolidate and revamp the party and enhance the militancy of basic party installations so that the latter can become firm and strong organizations.

Regarding the orientations and tasks for the 1991-95 five-year period, the political report set the following goals: Increase the average gross production output by five to six percent per year; produce 540,000 to 555,000 tonnes of paddy; achieve an average per capita grain output of 240 kilograms; reduce the population growth rate by 1.9 percent by 1995; increase peasants' actual income by 20 to 25 percent; and stabilize and promote economic growth in accordance with the industrial-agricultural-service formula.

On behalf of the party Central Committee executive body, Comrade Dao Duy Tung warmly commended the local party organization and people for their initial results in implementing the renovation undertaking. He presented some views contributed by the Secretariat to the congress's political report and suggested a number of points concerning the evaluation of the renovation process in the province, local strengths and potential, and solutions to the problems that may arise in the next five years. He reminded everyone of the need to apply a uniform economic management system to both central and local economic developments. He also touched on issues relating to trading structures and production planned norms and stressed the important roles of support services, goods circulation, and marketing.

Bui Thien Ngo at People's Police Force Congress

BK2511114991 Hanoi Vietnam Television Network in Vietnamese 1200 GMT 23 Nov 91

[Text] Recently, the People's Police Force of the Ministry of Interior held its third second-round party congress. Nearly 200 delegates from party committees of the force attended the congress. Comrade Bui Thien Ngo, member of the party Political Bureau and minister of interior, addressed the congress.

The congress unanimously agreed that in the last three years the force, together with other forces of the ministry, has renovated many of its activities, focused on the practical side of its work, and combined democracy and dictatorship in its work.

The force has also helped and led the local units to strongly attack the criminals, gradually contributing to restoring social order and helping to forcefully build the mass movements through its criminal oppression campaigns.

The congress focused on the target, direction, and duty in the coming years to improve the force's leading role over the local units to help them perform better the work of law and order, attacks against defenders of socialism, and security and social order in any circumstances. The congress also aimed at improving the People's Police Force so it can be stable politically, good professionally, and strong in organization to successfully complete any duties entrusted by the party and state.

General Doan Khue Letter to Army Driving School

BK2611155391 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2330 GMT 24 Nov 91

[Letter from SRV Defense Minister Doan Khue to cadres, workers, and personnel of the Army Driving School on its 40th founding anniversary; date not given]

[Text] On the occasion of the 40th founding anniversary of the Army Driving School attached to the Tram Nguon Truck Department, which has existed from 25 November 1951 to 25 November 1991, and on behalf of the Military Commission of the party Central Committee and the Ministry of National Defense, I cordially convey my kind regards and warm greetings to all cadres, teachers, students, combatants, national defense workers and personnel, wounded and sick soldiers, families of the fallen combatants of the school as well as all retirees.

Over the past 40 years—under the leadership of the Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV], the state, and the army, and with the support and assistance of the party organizations, the administration, and people from localities—generations of cadres, teachers, students, combatants, workers and personnel of the Army Driving School have consistently maintained their unity, overcome difficulties and hardships, improved teaching and learning, and strictly observed discipline. The school has trained tens of thousands of drivers, mechanical technicians, and teachers for the army, thereby contributing to gaining glorious victories in the national liberation and reunification, firmly defending the socialist Vietnamese fatherland, and fulfilling the international obligation toward the two fraternal nations of Laos and Cambodia. The school has consistently strengthened its glorious tradition and has received lofty distinctions bestowed by the party and state.

On this occasion, I highly commend you comrades for your achievements scored during the past 40 years.

Dear comrades: There are positive changes in our country at present, but difficulties are still prevalent. To triumphantly implement the Seventh CPV Congress resolutions and to meet requirements for the renovation undertaking and the building of the people's armed forces, you comrades should firmly grasp and seriously implement all lines and policies of the party and state. You should strive to resolutely overcome all difficulties and ordeals, bring the achievements gained into full play, continue to renovate and improve teaching and learning, enhance the spirit of self-reliance and dynamism, strengthen unity, strictly observe discipline, make the school strong in all aspects, satisfactorily implement esteemed Uncle Ho's teaching on taking care of all vehicles as we do our children, and strive to overcome all obstacles and fulfill all tasks, thereby contributing—together with the entire party, people, and the armed forces—to triumphantly building and firmly defending the socialist Vietnamese fatherland.

I wish you comrades good health and ever greater achievements in the days ahead. My cordial and determined-to-win salutations to you all.

Nong Duc Manh Attends Lang Son Party Congress

BK2711111191 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1000 GMT 23 Nov 91

[From the daily press review program]

[Text] NHAN DAN today carries on its front page an article on the 11th second-round party organization congress of Lang Son Province.

The article said: At present, urgent tasks of the province are to strengthen economic management to develop agro-forestry production, promote trade and tourism, and improve services.

The article said Comrade Nong Duc Manh, on behalf of the Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV] Central Committee Political Bureau, addressed the congress, commending the provincial party organization and people for their past achievements.

He stressed the significance of Lang Son, a northern border province with communications linking the north and the south. It is also an important gateway in the promotion of economic and social relations with foreign countries. As a result, in the new stage and with favorable conditions, Lang Son will score ever greater economic achievements if it promptly formulates clear-sighted plans.

Comrade Nong Duc Manh also raised some matters for discussion at the congress aimed at developing agro-forestry; the planting of traditional industrial crops such as as tobacco, anise, soyabean, and tea; and increasing the production of consumer and export goods.

He urged cadres and party members to resolutely oppose bureaucratism, to work more diligently, and to stay close to ethnic minorities in localities. He stressed that more efforts should be made to overcome bureaucratism as we did to oppose corruption and other negative phenomana.

The congress also elected a 47-member executive committee for the 11th provincial party organization. This committee, later, elected a standing body of the provincial party committee comprising 11 members. Comrade Ha Danh, member of the CPV Central Committee was elected secretary of the provincial party committee.

Article Affirms Socialism's Survival in Vietnam

BK2011145391 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 15 Nov 91

[Article in 15 November QUAN DOI NHAN DAN by Quang Thong: "Will Socialism in Vietnam Remain Steadfast and Develop? Our Main Explanation"]

[Text] Following the collapse of a series of socialist countries in Eastern Europe and especially following the August event in the Soviet Union which led to the collapse of the first socialist country in the world, we face the unavoidable question of whether socialism in Vietnam will survive and develop.

This is a question that reflects not only the legitimate concern of 60 million or more Vietnamese but also anxiety mixed with pride of genuine communists and progressive friends who once looked to Vietnam and admired a nation whose vitality is marvellous and whose victories have upset contemporary concepts about human violence and willpower.

According to the usual logical deductions from the developmental trends of the situation, it would be difficult for our socialist regime to survive. Is it possible for the political cyclone that swept away many socialist countries on the European continent to disappear in Asia or change course before the fortress walls of the Vietnamese communist regime? Was it really possible for a series of developed industrial socialist countries to collapse because of their old model and for a nation with the average percapita annual income of $US200 or so—the poorest in the world—to survive with a regime that is being condemned?

All these questions should be examined scrupulously and answered no matter which attitude and expression we may adopt. To the international communist movement, this period is the most serious crisis. Victory without war over socialism will be won in 1999. This prediction by a former U.S. president some three years ago, which was then considered eccentric, might become a reality now. The collapse of the Soviet Union was even faster than hostile forces imagined and expected.

In fact, the collapse in the Soviet Union and East European countries was caused by inherent weaknesses in their models and by offensive maneuvers from outside hostile forces. However, the direct and prominent cause was instability in their society and inside the party itself, which gave hostile forces the most convenient opportunity to engage more deeply in their peaceful evolution operations.

In Vietnam, the more clear the political events and turmoil in Eastern Europe and the more complicated the international developments became, the more distinctly the Vietnamese nation's unified voice was heard. Our entire people do not accept the trend toward political multipartyism. Their aspiration is the communist party leadership and the socialist path chosen by Uncle Ho. This is an undeniable fact.

In reality, the most difficult challenge to the survival of our regime took place six to seven years ago. This was constituted the last years of the regime based on rigid subsidies of the impatient and immature bureaucratic centralized management. This was a period when prices were soaring at a dizzy rate, causing people to worry and many aspects of social discipline to deteriorate in a worrisome manner. Our country was then seemingly driven between a wall and an abyss.

All of us, the Vietnamese communists and people, who lived through those days, have to admit that the greatest difficulties have been overcome. The renovation process has found an exit. Despite many difficulties ahead and although achievements in renovation remain modest, they are priceless assets for our nation to go forward. They are experiences gained by sweat and tears over 30 years of building the regime according to various rigid models, the successes and fumbles of more than four years of renovation, and the lessons still wet with the tears of our friends. Only the Vietnamese people can thoroughly understand the great significance of being untied from social shackles and of exiting from the tunnel with their comprehensively renovated thinking initiated by the sixth party congress. The stature of the sixth party congress must be forever recorded in history as a congress that found strength and a new step forward for the nation.

In only five years or so—or actually in only two years since the economy based on subsidies was officially and totally shifted to the market mechanism—although there are still many difficulties ahead, we have achieved many results worthy of pride. Many aspects of these achievements could not have been realized in the 30 years of our previous struggle. Our friends, as well as the whole world, were surprised at the report that we have become self-sufficient in grain and have even got some excess for export. Such an achievement always remains a dream for a certain developed modern country. Along with the development of a multisectorial economy and the availability of excess rice, the face of our society has changed and goods have become pleasantly plentiful. Following our shift from the mechanism of subsidization, some foreigners who returned to our country after two or three years, were unable to recognize the improved, more dynamic Vietnam which promises extraordinary developments.

In fact, the economy of our country has extricated itself from dependence on foreign aid for a few years now. We now have enough rice and crude oil for exchange, and can procure fertilizer and needed raw materials on our own. What we have today is all our own and belongs to our self-reliant economy. In only five years, our political mechanism has been qualitatively strengthened and renovated. The relationship between the party and state and the people has been concretized with every passing day and has begun to operate effectively. The atmosphere of democratic openess has breathed new vitality into social life. National defense and security has been assured. Our diplomatic activities have become more flexible and practical. We have opened our door to many friends and established our relations on the principle of economic development for mutual benefits, without discrimination against each other's regime.

That our society, people and country have had to live long in acute difficulties and poverty was due to many causes. Yet, our party must be held responsible for the greatest contribution among these causes. This was due to shortcomings common to those communists coming to power without sufficient resources to help arm themselves with knowledge about new social management.

We will never return to the time of centralized bureaucratism of subsidization, which was rife with blunder, failure and erroneous programs. However, never shall we be discouraged by these setbacks and discontinue our efforts. What is of greater significance than the material achievements that we have made in the past five years of renovation are our new ways of seeing, thinking, and working. After all, these are most essential. Once the goals and directions have been correctly chosen, the most difficult things are the working method, the measures, and the steps, which we have just found. We have on our own found, applied, and begun to implement with success the multisectorial commodity economy placed under the unified control of state management. This was a matter which we had fumbled with throughout the past 30 years. This has been the greatest of our achievements, and it released the wisdom and creativity of our labor and reflected the vitality of the entire society. Yet, this was also a great challenge in several adverse respects, such as the unemployment of a segment of workers in state-run factories, the penetration of a pragmatist lifestyle, the degeneration of ethical life, and the deep decline in expenses for social welfare benefits that used to be a superior feature of our regime. None of our 60 million people today disagree with the policy of developing the market economy placed under unified state management control. As a result, no one should fail to take responsibility for sharing and shouldering the inevitable and weighty burden generated by the new mechanism.

At this juncture, we cannot wait and depend on international aid. This remind us of our desire for self-reliance and maintenance of national dignity. Success, of course, will depend on our efforts. Although socialism models have collapsed in some countries its ideals are still compelling for many nations, and it is still the sole and correct path chosen by the Vietnamese people. We have finished in only four years work that would normally have taken 30 years to complete. As a result, we have reason to be proud of our party, a feeling that serves as a base for us to progress further. Our nation's potentials are great as the world recognizes the Vietnamese people as active and intelligent. However, we should not let the world think of us as invincible people of arms and violence but also a historically respected people. We should absolutely not let the world call us pitiful and poor. Material wealth is apparently essential, but we should not obtain it at all costs. The Bible has taught that men should not live just for wealth alone. As a result, in our efforts to achieve material wealth, we are dutybound to find ways and means to promote lofty spiritual values. The opportunists, however, do not care about morals.

In the struggle against aggressive enemies, our party leadership has won great the admiration and recognition of the world as the feat of arms achieved by collective intellectuals. However, no one has the capability to defeat aggressive enemies and to manage the nation and the economy successfully at the same time. Our party has admitted that socioeconomic management is its weakest feature. This weakness has reduced the party's ability to convince the people and has caused shortcomings in its party building task and in the management of its members. Actually, there are many pressing issues within the party that must be promptly solved in order for them to renovate. These include corruption, bureaucratism, favoritism, and wastefulness. However, admitting one's weakness is not the affirmation of one's cowardice. Our people have never succumbed to any kind of difficulty. In their struggle to build and defend the nation, our ancestors optimally exploited their strength, patriotism, earnest desire, and the all-people unity to gain victories. In the early years of the resistance against the aggressive colonialists, though our nation was totally exhausted and encircled by the enemies on all fronts, we stood firm and were able to defend the nascent revolutionary administration and eventually gained victory.

The impetus of the people is always stronger than the material strength of the nation. All nations have bitter experiences in one form or another and have learnt how to survive and progress by exploiting the determination and confidence of their people.

In Vietnam at this juncture, success depends on the determination of its 60 million people. We still have numerous difficulties, our party has experienced shortcomings, and enemies are frantically attacking us from many directions. However, the main door has opened. With the firm solidarity of the party and people, we will undoubtedly be able to overcome all ordeals. Political stability will guarantee our success. At present, our main source of strength is derived from our people's confidence in the renovation and in the victory of socialism in our nation. As a result, the party must promptly renovate and purify itself to make its members an exemplary group for the people at large. The vitality of the nation depends on the younger generation. At this turning point, only by preventing the younger generation's creativity from being wastefully exploited for selfish reasons will we be able to achieve progress and advance further.

With a socialist Vietnam adhering to Marxism-Leninism and Ho Chi Minh's thought, and with the experience and initial achievements in various domains, the Vietnamese people are encouraged to firmly advance to overcome all current ordeals.